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## Documents: USAF might adopt Army's 'MultiCam'

BY JAMES BOLINGER  
AND LEON COOK  
*Stars and Stripes*

Airmen could soon be wearing the same "MultiCam" work uniforms as their Army counterparts, according to leaked documents posted to social media last week.

The documents, reportedly from the Air Force Uniform Office, suggest ditching the service's "Airman Battle Uniform" in favor of the Army's MultiCam "Operational Camouflage Pattern."

The change would see airmen trade their digitized tiger stripes designed to mimic a Vietnam-era uniform for a brown-and-green pattern made for use in Afghanistan. A uniform change could be announced in June, with the changeover starting on Oct. 1, the documents say.

Air Force Capt. Kathleen Atanasoff, a Pentagon spokeswoman, confirmed in a statement last week that the service is looking at options for a new utility uniform but said no decision has been made.

**SEE MULTICAM ON PAGE 6**



BRANDON VALLE  
Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

**MultiCam** uniforms line shelves in the Peacekeeper High Bay on F.E. Warren Air Force Base in Wyoming. Airmen working in nuclear security began wearing the camouflage pattern in 2015.



# What next IN AFRICA?



Pentagon grapples with thorny question after Niger ambush

BY DAN LAMOTHE  
*The Washington Post*

The deaths of four U.S. soldiers during a chaotic ambush in Niger leaves the Pentagon grappling with a thorny issue in Africa: How should it counter Islamic State and other militant groups without becoming ensnared in conflicts on the continent?

The attack, launched Oct. 4, also left five Nigerian soldiers dead and prompted a two-day search for one of the slain American soldiers. The Pentagon is expected to soon release the results of an investigation that details what went wrong and how soldiers carrying out a routine patrol possibly ended up hunting members of a new ISIS offshoot,

as Nigerian officials have said.

"I have been reading the report myself because I don't want this dragged out," Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said Thursday, adding that he expected to see recommendations from the Pentagon's top officer, Marine Gen. Joseph Dunford.

**SEE AFRICA ON PAGE 7**

JAMES SHEEHAN  
Courtesy of the U.S. Army

USS Wasp sets sail after assessment

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## MILITARY

# USS Wasp heads out on 1st patrol after assessment

BY JAMES BOLINGER  
*Stars and Stripes*

The USS Wasp and its strike group steamed away from Okinawa on Monday, heading out for its first regional patrol since arriving in Japan earlier this year.

The amphibious assault ship spent the past couple of weeks undergoing a "ready-for-sea assessment," during which F-35B Lightning IIs landed aboard the vessel for the first time. Some have dubbed the Wasp a miniature aircraft carrier because of upgrades that allow it to host the next-generation stealth fighter.

More than 2,300 members of the Okinawa-based 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit are embarked

with the strike group, which includes the 844-foot flattop Wasp, the guided-missile destroyer USS Dewey, the dock-landing ship USS Ashland and the amphibious transport dock ship USS Green Bay.

The short-takeoff, vertical-landing-capable F-35Bs come from Fighter Attack Squadron 121 out of Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni.

The fighter "is a great addition to the team," Col. Tye Wallace, commander of the Marines embarked with the strike group, said in a statement. "It's a flexible aircraft, which will greatly enhance our capabilities ... to execute missions across the spectrum."

During the patrol, sailors and Marines — who are trained to



An F-35B is lowered into the hangar bay of the amphibious assault ship USS Wasp last week in the East China Sea.

DESMOND PARKS/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

conduct amphibious assaults, seize airfields, reinforce embassies, evacuate civilians and respond to disasters — will learn to work together, the statement said.

The Wasp serves under Amphibious Force 7th Fleet, the Navy's only forward-deployed amphibious force, headquartered at White

Beach Naval Facility, Okinawa. It arrived at Sasebo on Jan. 14 to replace the USS Bonhomme Richard after a 28,400-mile journey from Norfolk, Va. It was delayed after being diverted to the Caribbean to assist in disaster-relief efforts after two major hurricanes devastated the islands.

The Bonhomme Richard, which has been homeported at Sasebo since April 2012, will remain there for an undetermined period before heading to its new home in San Diego, where it will undergo maintenance and upgrades.

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## Army remains silent on use of live rounds before fire began

Associated Press

FORT CARSON, Colo. — The Army remained silent Monday on whether live ammunition was in use during a training exercise at Fort Carson three days ago, the same day a fire started on the post, spread to private land and destroyed three homes.

Fort Carson spokeswoman Brandy Gill said she did not yet have any information on the training.

Investigators have not determined the cause of the fire, or whether it was related to the training. The fire started amid dry, windy weather and scorched 5 square miles.

Gill said she had no information on whether Fort Carson has restrictions on training on days such as Friday, when wildfire danger is high, or whether training guidelines were under review.

Col. Ron Fitch, Fort Carson's garrison

commander, said at a news conference Friday the training had to go on despite the conditions because the soldiers were preparing to deploy overseas. "We have to train in order to prepare those soldiers," he said.

The training involved infantry and helicopters, Fitch said.

The fire was contained by Monday, although some trash piles and old tires continued to burn.

At least 250 homes were evacuated dur-

ing the fire. Most residents were told they could return, but five homes remained under evacuation orders Monday because they were near the remaining fires, El Paso County sheriff's spokeswoman Natalie Sosa said.

Sosa said firefighting crews discovered an illegal marijuana growing operation in the area Saturday. Officers got a search warrant and seized more than 100 plants. No arrests have been made, she said.

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## MILITARY

# Officials: Summit will not affect war games

BY KIM GAMEL  
*Stars and Stripes*

SEOUL, South Korea — U.S. and South Korean officials vowed not to scale back joint war games set to begin April 1 despite plans for back-to-back summits between the allies and North Korea.

However, the messaging and a shortened timetable suggest the annual drills will be kept low-key to avoid provoking the North Koreans as delicate diplomacy is underway.

Washington and Seoul agreed to postpone the exercises known as Foal Eagle and Key Resolve to ease tensions during the Feb. 9-25 Winter Olympics and March 9-18 Paralympics, which were held on the divided peninsula.

Defense Secretary Jim Mattis and his South Korean counterpart, Song Young-moo, said Tuesday that the drills are expected to resume on April 1 "at a scale similar to that of previous years."

The decision, which had been widely expected, was announced in a brief statement that contained

**“These routine training exercises are not conducted in response to any [North Korean] provocations or the current political situation on the peninsula.”**

Lt. Col. Christopher Logan  
Pentagon spokesman

few details. The U.S.-led United Nations Command notified the North Korean army at the Joint Security Area in the Demilitarized Zone at 8:30 a.m., it said.

About 11,500 U.S. troops and 290,000 South Korean troops will participate in the field-training exercise known as Foal Eagle, Pentagon spokesman Lt. Col. Christopher Logan said separately.

The computer-simulated Key Resolve will involve about 12,200 Americans and 10,000 South Korean military personnel, he said.

U.S. Forces Korea's public affairs office said Key Resolve would begin on April 23 and last about

two weeks as usual.

The Yonhap News Agency quoted an informed source as saying it may be pushed back to mid-April to avoid coinciding with a U.S.-North Korea summit expected to be held by May.

The allies stressed that the exercises will include all service branches and won't be scaled back in scope or duration.

But South Korea's military later said Foal Eagle, the most dramatic of the simultaneous drills, would last a month instead of the two months it took last year when tensions were spiking over the North's nuclear weapons program.

Last year's drills also saw the deployment of several U.S. warships, including the USS Carl Vinson.

The exercises have long been a flashpoint for tensions on the divided peninsula because they always infuriate Pyongyang, which considers them a rehearsal for an invasion. The North has frequently responded with fiery rhetoric and provocations, including firing four missiles toward Japan last year.

South Korean envoys who met with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un said he understood the exercises would be held as planned this year. But Pyongyang has not made any direct comments on the issue.

Logan reiterated the military's stance that the exercises are defensive in nature and necessary to maintain readiness.

No details about the scenarios or other details will be released "to avoid compromising exercise objectives," he said. "These routine training exercises are not conducted in response to any [North Korean] provocations or the cur-

rent political situation on the peninsula," he said.

As in the past, the exercises will be monitored by the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission to ensure compliance with the armistice agreement that ended the 1950-53 Korean War.

North Korea joined the Winter Games and engaged in rare talks with Seoul that led to an agreement for Kim Jong Un and South Korean President Moon Jae-in to meet in late April. A South Korean delegation later traveled to Pyongyang and returned with an offer from Kim to meet with President Donald Trump. Trump surprised many by saying he would meet with Kim by May.

The communist state has been largely silent since the flurry of breakthroughs, prompting skepticism about its sincerity. North Korean officials have been dispatched to Sweden and Finland for meetings that may help lay the groundwork for what would be the first-ever U.S.-North Korean summit.

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## Blossoming cherry trees serve as reminders of allies' colorful history

BY CAITLIN DOORNBOS  
*Stars and Stripes*

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — With the first day of spring upon us, pink blossoms are beginning to dot the limbs of Japanese cherry trees across their native land.

The beloved blooms are also opening halfway across the world in Washington, where the flowers serve as a reminder of the history and alliance between the United States and Japan.

More than 100 years ago, Japan sent more than 3,000 Japanese cherry trees to Washington. The first two — planted in 1912 by first lady Helen Herron Taft and Viscountess Iwa Chinda at the Tidal Basin — still stand today, according to the National Parks Service.

As the trees grew in popularity, admirers threw festivals and pageants in their honor.

In 1965, the Japanese government presented its former World War II foe with another 3,800 trees that were planted near the Washington Monument.

"The gift from Japan in 1912 of these 3,000 trees has taken root in America, and the years of tender care by Americans have made the trees strong," said Takehiro Shimada, minister for communications and culture affairs at the Embassy of Japan in Washington.

In 1982, that symbol took on even greater meaning. After flooding in Japan destroyed hundreds of the country's native trees, horticulturists took about 800 cuttings from the Washington trees to Japan as replacements.

Retired Adm. Gary Roughead, a former chief of Naval Operations, said the blossom exchanges reflect the bond the U.S. shares with its former enemy.

"Whenever I visit the Tidal Basin when the cherry blossoms are in full bloom, I am moved by

the quietness of the thousands who are taking in their beauty," he said. "There is a unique peacefulness among the crowds that accentuates their symbolism of friendship and reconciliation and represents the unique relationship and alliance between our two countries."

This relationship is one of the more strategically important alliances the U.S. has in the Pacific, Roughead said.

**“They are a perfect metaphor for the strong bond between our two nations.”**

Takehiro Shimada  
communications minister at the Embassy of Japan in Washington

"Historically, and now, the U.S.-Japan alliance is the extraordinarily unique partnership that underpins peace and security in Northeast Asia and, importantly, in the broader Indo-Pacific region," he said.

During a recent outing to see some of the season's first cherry blossoms in Japan, Yokosuka military spouses spoke about what the trees mean to them.

"It's such a great symbol of not only our friendship but also our alliance and for us to be welcomed over here by so many," said April Wilhelm, whose husband serves aboard the USS Ronald Reagan.

"I know that if I ever have an issue and I live out in town, I know I have friends everywhere because of our alliance."

Sarah Peets — wife of an electronics technician on shore duty at Yokosuka — said Japan's cherry blossoms remind her of her childhood.



U.S. Navy spouse Sarah Peets greets a Japanese man and his dog during the recent Miurakagai Cherry Blossom Festival near Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan.

hood in northern Virginia. She grew up watching the trees bloom in and around Washington

"I think that's wonderful not only from a geopolitical standpoint but also from an ecological standpoint, because we helped back," she said. "I think it's really cool how the U.S. and Japan have helped each other out multiple times since all the wars that have happened."

The annual National Cherry Blossom Festival kicked off in Washington on Tuesday and will continue through April 15. The National Park Service predicted

peak bloom will take place this week.

The Japan Meteorological Corporation forecasted that most blooms would begin appearing in the southern parts of mainland Japan on Tuesday and in the north by April 30.

"They are a perfect metaphor for the strong bond between our two nations," Shimada said. "Each spring, there is a sense of renewal. Our friendship is celebrated with the blossoms that bring people together."

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JESSICA BIDWELL/Stars and Stripes  
The annual National Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington kicked off Tuesday and will run through April 15.

## PACIFIC

# Wreck of ship 'The Sullivans' sailed on found

Juneau became symbol of wartime sacrifice after Battle of Guadalcanal

By MATTHEW M. BURKE  
*Stars and Stripes*

Billions Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen has announced the discovery of yet another historic World War II vessel.

The USS Juneau — the Navy's storied Atlanta-class light cruiser — was found recently by the expedition crew of Research Vessel Petrel. The ship was resting on the ocean floor off the Solomon Islands, more than 2 miles below the surface.

The Juneau became a symbol of wartime sacrifice after it was sunk by a Japanese torpedo during the Battle of Guadalcanal in 1942. Nearly 690 sailors — including five Iowa brothers known as "The Sullivans" — went down with the ship.

Two Navy vessels, including an active guided-missile destroyer, have been named in the brothers' honor.

The ship was first identified Saturday by the R/V Petrel's autonomous underwater vehicle, according to a statement from Allen. The crew deployed its remotely operated underwater vehicle the next day and recorded the first images of the wreckage.

"We certainly didn't plan to find the Juneau on St. Patrick's Day. The variables of these searches are just too great," Robert Kraft, director of subsea operations for Allen, said in the statement. "But finding the USS Juneau on Saint Patrick's Day is an unexpected coincidence to the Sullivan brothers and all the service members who were lost 76 years ago."

Naval Surface Forces commander Vice Adm. Rich Brown, who once helmed the USS The Sullivans, said he was excited to hear that Allen's team was able to find the cruiser.

"The story of the USS Juneau crew and Sullivan brothers epitomize the service and sacrifice of our nation's greatest generation," he said in the statement.

## Short service history

The Juneau was commissioned on Feb. 14, 1942, only about nine months prior to its sinking, according to the Navy.

After a short spring patrol of the Atlantic coast, it was sent on a blockade patrol of the Martinique and Guadeloupe islands to prevent the escape of Vichy French naval units. The ship then returned to New York "to complete alterations."

The cruiser operated in the North Atlantic and Caribbean from June through August on patrol and es-

See undersea video of the wreckage at: [www.stripes.com/go/sullivan](http://www.stripes.com/go/sullivan)

cort duties. It was then dispatched to the Pacific where it participated in several battles and combat actions, including the decisive Battle of Santa Cruz Island on Oct. 26.

On Nov. 8, 1942, the Juneau departed Noumea, New Caledonia, to escort reinforcements to Guadalcanal under Rear Adm. R.K. Turner's Task Force 67, the Navy said. They arrived on the morning of Nov. 12, and the Juneau took up its position as a protective screen for the transports and cargo vessels.

Unloading took place without incident until just after 2 p.m., when 30 Japanese planes attacked. The Juneau alone shot down six enemy torpedo bombers.

After reports came in that a large Japanese force was headed for the island, an American attack group of cruisers and destroyers left Guadalcanal to engage the 18 to 20 Japanese vessels, including two battleships, the Navy said. Though outnumbered and outgunned, the group fought valiantly. The Juneau teamed with the USS Atlanta to sink an enemy destroyer that as the two forces slugged it out at close range.

But the Juneau's port side was hit by a torpedo, forcing it to withdraw just before noon on Nov. 13, the Navy said. A Japanese submarine launched three torpedoes as the Juneau limped alongside the severely damaged USS San Francisco. The Juneau avoided two of the bombs but was struck by the third.

"There was a terrific explosion; Juneau broke in two and disappeared in 20 seconds," the Navy said. "The gallant ship with Captain [Lyman] Swenson and most of her crew, including the five Sullivan brothers, was lost."

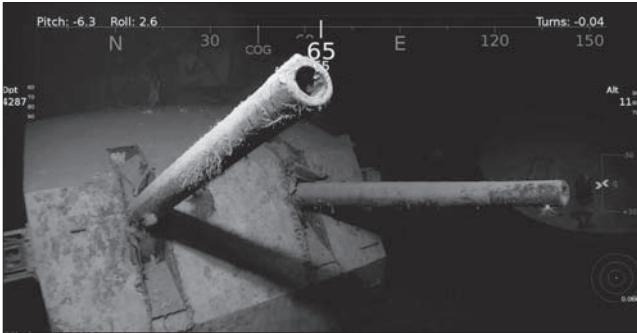
The American task force did not stay to check for survivors, the Navy said. They fled the scene because of the risk of further Japanese attacks and due to the Juneau's abrupt sinking, leaving as many as 115 crew in the water, including at least two of the Sullivan brothers.

They would not return for several days. Only 10 members of the crew were rescued from the water eight days after the sinking.

The Juneau received four battle stars for its World War II service.

## 'Keep us together'

The Sullivan brothers — Al, Francis, George, Joseph and



Underwater video image shows a gun turret from the USS Juneau, a U.S. Navy ship sunk by Japanese torpedoes 76 years ago, found in the South Pacific.

PAUL ALLEN/AP

Madison — entered World War II soon after a friend was killed on the USS Arizona during the Pearl Harbor attack on Dec. 7, 1941, the Navy said. They enlisted on the day after Christmas, requesting to be stationed together.

"As a bunch, there is no-body that can beat us," George Sullivan wrote in a letter asking that they not be separated. "We would appreciate it very much if you could, if possible keep us together."

The Navy granted that request and sent all five brothers to the Juneau. They were present for the cruiser's commissioning at Brooklyn Navy Yard, where they were touted as an example of patriotism in a country now mobilizing for war. The Navy took an iconic photo of the five brothers holding one of the ship's hatches during the ceremony.

After their deaths, their mother, Alleta, continued to support the war effort and the Sullivan family became synonymous with sacrifice, the Navy said. President Franklin D. Roosevelt sent the family a personal letter expressing his sorrow and the nation's deepest sympathies.

Since deploying in 2017, the Petrel has made several discoveries of military ships, including wreckage from the USS Ward, which fired the first shot of World War II at Pearl Harbor.

In August, it found the USS Indianapolis, which delivered parts for the first atomic bomb ever used in combat.

Earlier this month, the crew discovered the USS Lexington, the first aircraft carrier sunk during WWII. The wreckage rested about 500 miles off the eastern coast of Australia and about 2 miles below the water's surface.

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Courtesy of the National Archives

The USS Juneau became a symbol of wartime sacrifice after it was sunk in 1942.



Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

The Sullivan brothers pose during the commissioning of the USS Juneau in New York on Feb. 14, 1942. The brothers are, from left, Joseph, Francis, Albert, Madison and George.



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## MILITARY

# Hospital commander suspended amid probe

BY WILL MORRIS  
*Stars and Stripes*

KAIERSLAUTERN, Germany — The Army suspended the commander of Landstuhl Regional Medical Center on Tuesday, pending the outcome of an investigation.

Col. Timothy Hudson, who took command of the Army's largest hospital in Europe in June, will be placed on other duties while the investigation is conducted, officials said.

Officials declined to comment on the nature of the investigation other than to say that the issues did not involve patient safety or patient care.



Hudson

The staff of the hospital was notified Tuesday morning of the decision.

Col. Claude Burnett, Landstuhl deputy commander of Army health clinics, was appointed as the acting commander.

Brig. Gen. Dennis P. LeMaster, Regional Health Command Europe commander, said the suspension will not affect the hospital's mission.

"LRMC remains fully mission capable

and will continue to provide safe and quality health care for our beneficiaries and mission command oversight of its six geographically separated clinics," LeMaster said.

Although it remains unknown whether the allegations are personal or professional in nature, some doctors have been critical of hospital management in recent months.

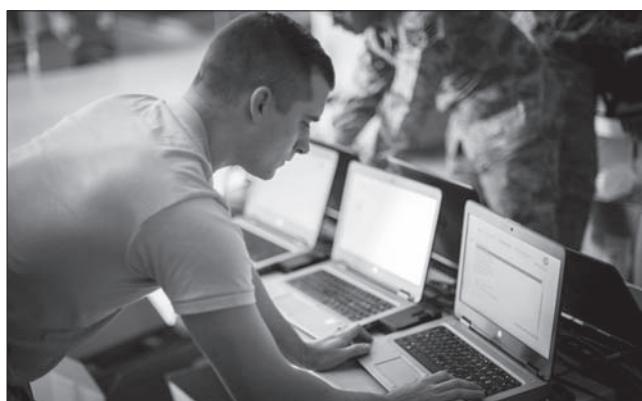
In February, civilian doctors at Landstuhl said they were moving ahead with an effort to unionize, citing low morale and compensation, as well as staff shortages, said Peter Winch, a representative with the American Federation of Government Employees in Washington.

Doctors who highlight problems risk not getting their contracts renewed, union organizers said.

"You feel like the leadership will retaliate and not extend your contract," said one doctor, who requested anonymity for fear of reprisal.

Doctors who spoke with Stars and Stripes in February said that performance awards were being withheld or delayed for unknown reasons. The medical command disputed the comments, stating that compensation was comparable with the private sector and that bonuses were being paid.

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ALEXIS P. DOCHERTY/Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

**Senior Airman Zach Wilt, 49th Communications Squadron cyberoperator, installs Microsoft Windows 10 to a laptop at Holloman Air Force Base, N.M., on Nov. 1.**

## Deadline approaches for military to upgrade systems to Windows 10

BY WILLIAM HOWARD  
*Stars and Stripes*

RAF LAKENHEATH, England — The Air Force has spent millions of dollars on new computers and upgraded thousands more to meet a Pentagon mandate to convert its systems to Microsoft Windows 10 by March 31.

The Army finished updating its systems in January, while the Department of the Navy, which also administers the Marine Corps, said it plans to complete the changes by June.

The Pentagon originally ordered the services in November 2015 to upgrade more than 3 million computer systems to Windows 10 by January 2017, but compatibility issues led to delays.

"Windows 10 is not compatible with many systems currently in the Air Force inventory, resulting in the need to replace a significant number of computer hardware," the Air Force said in a February report.

More than 500,000 Windows 10-compatible machines have

been purchased in the past two years after an inventory survey, Air Force officials said.

The worldwide upgrade affects systems ranging from unclassified to top secret, including computers used for tactical and strategic missions. It doesn't include Windows cellphones, Windows Server operating systems or non-Windows-based devices.

At RAF Lakenheath, a British base that hosts U.S. aircraft and personnel, the upgrade process began in September, said Tech Sgt. Paul Wilson, of the 48th Communications Squadron.

Wilson and his team have already upgraded 4,500 computers used by the 48th Fighter Wing to Windows 10 while assisting airmen with transferring data and using the new operating system.

"In some cases, we were able to update the machines on-site based on the hardware specifications, but overall we mainly just swapped out a Windows 7 computer with a Windows 10 one," Wilson said. "In most cases the machines that we provided them

had a faster processing speed and more hard drive space."

Senior Airman Elizabeth Taranto was the first in her office at RAF Lakenheath to receive a new Windows 10 computer.

"It was pretty seamless and they took really good care of me," Taranto said. "They got it done really quickly and I haven't had any glitches."

The switch to Windows 10 will improve cybersecurity throughout the services, military officials said.

The Navy is using an "aggressive combination" of computer replacement, manual software upgrades and automatic updates to bring the Navy Marine Corps Intranet up to date, Rear Adm. Danielle Barrett, director of Navy cybersecurity for the office of the chief of naval operations, said in a statement.

"Automated deployment is underway, with rapidly increasing volume between (February) and April," Barrett said.

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## Navy says fuel tanks fix could cost billions

*Associated Press*

HONOLULU — The Navy has estimated that the least expensive method of double-walling its fuel tanks that in 2014 spilled 27,000 gallons of fuel could cost between \$500 million and \$2 billion.

The costs are part of an agreement entered into by the Navy, Defense Logistics Agency, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and state Department of Health to upgrade the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility, the Honolulu Star-Advertiser reported Monday.

The facility, with 20 giant underground tanks that cumulatively hold 250 million gallons of fuel, is deemed by the military to be an essential facility for operations. In December, the Navy submitted a tank upgrade study that examines three single-wall options and includes improved repair and restoration as the most basic option, as well as two double-wall designs and one tank-within-a-tank design.

The most expensive tank-within-a-tank option, with carbon steel and full interior and

exterior coating, is estimated at between \$2 billion and \$5 billion. The cheapest single-wall option is projected by the Navy to cost between \$180 million and \$450 million, the Star-Advertiser reported.

At a Red Hill public information meeting last week, Waianae resident Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai favored secondary containment — double-walling the tanks — in five years.

The Sierra Club of Hawaii has a similar stance.

The consent agreement requires that whatever upgrade is selected needs to be completed by September 2037.

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From The Associated Press

## MILITARY

# Navy considers scrapping one of its hospital ships

Move would free up more money for warships, submarines and aircraft

By SCOTT WYLAND  
Stars and Stripes

A hospital ship could become a casualty as the Navy seeks to free more money to spend on warships, submarines and aircraft.

The Navy proposed mothballing one of its two floating hospitals — the USNS Mercy or the USNS Comfort — to make budgetary room to expand its fighting capabilities.

These 1,000-bed ships have provided medical care during wars and disasters since they were converted from oilers in the late 1980s. Most recently, the Comfort went to Puerto Rico in the aftermath of hurricanes Irma and Maria.

The Navy's proposed 2019 budget of \$151.4 billion would be a \$12.6 billion increase over the previous year and calls for adding 46 ships to the current 280 over the next five years. For 2019, the Navy looks to add two subma-

ries, three destroyers and 24 F/A-18 Super Hornets.

But Navy leaders say the increased production still falls short of the pace needed to meet a long-term goal of a 355-ship fleet in 30 years.

Some lawmakers have questioned the Navy's plan to retire one of the hospital ships, saying they both are needed to treat mass casualties when no hospital ashore are available.

"We have an obligation to our soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines, and also the civilians across this world," said Rep. Trent Kelly, R-Miss., at a March 8 congressional hearing.

"There will come a time when we need that and we need to always be ready."

Air Force Gen. Darren McDew, head of the U.S. Transportation Command, told lawmakers that tough decisions are required even with a budget increase.



CHRISTOPHER MERIAN/Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

**The Military Sealift Command hospital ship USNS Comfort arrives in San Juan, Puerto Rico, on Oct. 3 to help with Hurricane Maria aid and relief. The Navy proposes mothballing one of its two hospital ships to free money for fighting capabilities.**

Still, the loss of a hospital ship would be felt during a crisis, when hundreds of patients would have to be airlifted to a distant hospital, McDew said.

"I'm a big fan of hospital ships because I love the fact that we can help injured and ill (service)members," McDew said.

Losing a hospital ship would

dramatically increase needs for large aircraft to transport patients, McDew added.

The Mercy has mostly operated in the Pacific, and the Comfort in the Atlantic and the Persian Gulf. The Comfort assisted in the aftermath of Katrina, the Haitian earthquake and the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

Both have operating rooms, intensive care units, burn wards and radiology facilities, as well as general medical and dental services. They each carry up to 1,200 personnel and have landing decks for airlifting patients from shore.

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## MultiCam: Some airmen like the idea of new uniform

### FROM FRONT PAGE

"We regularly review uniform policy and gather feedback from airmen via a number of channels," she said. "The Air Force uniform policy team and senior leaders are currently considering this feedback and working on possible courses of action."

One recommendation is that the Air Force, which adopted its current uniform in 2007, go with the OCP Army Combat Uniform, she said.

OCPs are already worn by airmen who deploy to Afghanistan and Iraq and in support of Operation Inherent Resolve.

Some airmen at Yokota Air Base — home of U.S. Forces Japan and the 5th Air Force in western Tokyo — said they liked

the idea of wearing MultiCam.

"It's the best thing ever," Staff Sgt. Jed Campbell, an air transportation craftsman from the 730th Air Mobility Squadron, said Tuesday. "Wearing [MultiCam] was something to look forward to about deploying to Afghanistan."

"They're so much more comfortable."

Staff Sgt. Alex Berry, an avionics technician with the mobility squadron, said people in his unit are excited about the prospect of a new uniform.

"I'll save money on sewing patches" if the change happens, he said.

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**"It's the best thing ever. Wearing [MultiCam] was something to look forward to about deploying to Afghanistan. They're so much more comfortable."**

Sgt. Jed Campbell  
730th Air Mobility Squadron

## Navy closer to 2-carrier purchase

BY HUGH LESSIG  
(Newport News, Va.) Daily Press

The Navy on Monday moved closer to buying two aircraft carriers at once, formally requesting shipbuilder Huntington Ingalls Industries to "further define" possible cost savings of a double purchase.

"The opportunity for a two-ship contract is dependent on significant savings that the shipbuilding industry and government must demonstrate," said James F. Guerts, assistant secretary of the Navy for research, development and acquisition.

HII is the sole builder of nuclear-powered aircraft carriers at its Newport News Shipbuilding division. Responding to the Navy's request, HII President Mike Petters released a statement in support of a two-carrier purchase, something he has advocated for some time.

"We believe the most effective way to reduce cost of aircraft carriers is to take a multi-ship purchase approach and build them every three to four years," he said. "Buying two ships at once stabilizes the Newport News shipbuilding workforce and their national supplier base, allows us to buy materials in quantity and phase work more efficiently. This action by the U.S. Navy allows us to work with them to better define and achieve the significant cost savings that will result from this approach."

A two-carrier purchase would cover the future USS Enterprise, also known as CVN-80, now undergoing advance work at the Newport News shipyard, plus CVN-81, which does not yet have a name. The two ships constitute the third and fourth carriers of the Gerald R. Ford class.

The Navy plans to award the CVN-80 construction contract in early fiscal year 2019 as a two-ship buy pending congressional approval and achieving

significant savings," Guerts said.

The bulk purchase of aircraft carriers has significant support in Congress. In December, 131 House of Representatives members signed a letter to Defense Secretary Jim Mattis supporting the idea, led by Rep. Rob Wittman, R-Westmoreland. Earlier that month, nine senators backed a two-carrier purchase, including Virginia Democrats Mark R. Warner and Tim Kaine.

Wittman on Monday called the request for information "a great step towards strengthening the fleet." Sen. Roger Wicker, R-Miss., joined Wittman in praising the move, as did Kaine.

"After years of advocating for the Navy to block-buy carriers, I welcome today's news that they are moving closer to make it a reality," Kaine said. "Paired with our efforts to secure a two-year budget deal, we are finally making smart moves to provide much-needed long-term stability to the entire region, save taxpayer dollars and strengthen our national defense."

Warner also weighed in, saying, "This step would increase predictability and stability for our suppliers, including the men and women of the Newport News shipbuilding, as well as generate significant costs savings for U.S. taxpayers."

The Trump administration supports a significant expansion of the Navy fleet, from about 275 ships today to 355. That would include expanding the number of aircraft carriers from 11 to 12, prescribed by the 2018 National Defense Authorization Act, which serves as a blueprint for defense spending.

Speaking at a conference last year, Petters said a two-carrier purchase "would be a huge signal to the whole industry that we're really serious about changing the size of the Navy."

# WAR ON TERRORISM

## Africa: On vast continent, opportunities to help but a lot of ground to cover

### FROM FRONT PAGE

Video released by ISIS and originally captured on the helmet camera of a U.S. soldier shows U.S. and Nigerien soldiers fighting in an open desertscape as armed militants closed in. The unit, which included elite members of 3rd Special Forces Group, did not have air support for an hour after calling for help, leaving it vulnerable as a larger force of about 50 militants attacked with rifles and machine guns.

The ambush underscores the danger of dispersing small teams across a vast continent where the Pentagon does not have the same level of support for its servicemembers as it does in a country such as Iraq or Afghanistan. Those war zones remain dangerous but, after years of U.S. operations, they have a more robust network of fire support, aerial surveillance, medical help and quick-reaction rescue units when a crisis erupts.

The attack also raises questions about what the Trump administration might do in Africa in the future.

Senior defense officials, including Mattis, have long backed having U.S. troops advise and occasionally accompany local forces on operations, calling it an effort to prevent militant groups from launching attacks on the United States. President Donald Trump, though, has questioned the wisdom of deploying U.S. troops across the globe for small counterterrorism missions and has said little about the war against terrorism on the continent.

Mark E. Mitchell, a senior Pentagon official overseeing Special Operations, said recently that while the Niger operation prompted scrutiny about the limited aircraft available to perform intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions, it would be hard to provide many more.

"Frankly, if we filled all the needs for our combatant commanders, we would have to triple or quadruple our force, and we just don't have the money to do that," Mitchell said, speaking in a room of defense contractors and Special Operations officers at a conference near Washington. "We don't have the pilots, and it's just not going to happen."

Across the continent on any given day, about 6,500 U.S. troops and 1,000 contractors are involved in U.S. military operations, Marine Gen. Thomas Waldhauser, the chief of U.S. Africa Command, told the House Armed Services Committee this month. More than 4,000 of them are based in East Africa in Djibouti, Somalia and Kenya.

In Somalia, the Pentagon boosted the number of U.S. personnel last year from about 200 to 500 while carrying out air strikes against al-Shabab, a militant group with ties to al-Qaida. A Navy SEAL became the first U.S. servicemember killed in Somalia in about 25 years last spring during a raid on a militant compound.



JAMES SHEEHAN/Courtesy of the U.S. Army

**There are 1,800 U.S. troops in West Africa working with militaries in countries from Senegal to Nigeria in ways that are not always transparent.**

Waldhauser, asked about operations in Somalia, told committee members that he would not say the United States is at war there and that the mission is "specifically designed for us not to own that."

Other U.S. troops are spread out thousands of miles away, with about 1,800 in West Africa — an area nearly the size of the continental United States — in countries from Senegal to Nigeria.

The U.S. military trains, advises, equips local forces and bolsters counterterrorism efforts there in ways that are not always transparent. It also received approval from Niger's government late last year to

**'Sometimes, the knee-jerk reaction when something bad happens of, "Get them out of there," that's not a particularly good response.'**

Retired Army Gen. Carter Ham, former AFRICOM commander

fly armed drones from Niamey, the nation's capital.

The Pentagon considered 15 African nations dangerous enough for U.S. troops to qualify for imminent danger pay of \$225 per month when the Niger attack occurred: Algeria, Burundi, Chad, Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Tunisia and Uganda. It added Niger, Mali and the northern regions of Cameroon to the list this month.

The Trump administration acknowledged in a required report to Congress on March 12 that U.S. troops came under fire in Niger again in December. The



JIMMIE D. PIKE/Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

**Members of the Nigerien military watch as Senior Airman Joshua Brooks, 768th Expeditionary Air Base Squadron air adviser, demonstrates an armbar at Nigerien Air Base 101 in April 2017.**

report, posted online by The New York Times, states that U.S. troops reacted in self-defense. No U.S. troops were injured in the firefight.

The Niger attack marked the largest number of deaths for the U.S. military in an Africa operation since the Battle of Mogadishu in Somalia in October 1993. That mission prompted significant changes, including the withdrawal of U.S. forces from Somalia within months by President Bill Clinton and the resignation of Defense Secretary Les Aspin.

Retired Army Gen. Carter Ham, who was commander of U.S. Africa Command from March 2011 to June 2013, said the decisions in the aftermath of the Battle of Mogadishu "were understandable" at the time, but that Somalia's security situation might be better now if the changes had been made gradually. It

is important, he said, to have an ongoing assessment of whether a mission still makes sense.

"Sometimes, the knee-jerk reaction when something bad happens of, 'Get them out of there,' that's not a particularly good response," Ham said. "It may have some longer-term consequences if there is an abrupt withdrawal from a particular area because something tragic has happened. This is where a bit of time and distance can be helpful in the evaluation of that."

The small nature of the mission in Africa stems in part from a desire among many African officials not to have a large U.S. military presence in their countries. But it also is based on assessments done at the Pentagon, which typically prioritizes larger combat operations elsewhere.

Waldhauser said the Armed Services panel that the vast size

of Africa challenges the U.S. military when it comes to providing quick-reaction rescue forces and medical evacuation. Still, he said, "the bottom line is that we know we have adequate resources to do what we are supposed to do, and we have to work within those right and left limits."

That continues a theme that has existed almost universally since AFRICOM was established in 2007 to provide better oversight of operations on the continent. Since then, commanders have often asked for additional assistance to bolster security and training efforts there but often have been overruled at the Pentagon in light of competing priorities in other regions.

"I always felt that there was a careful calculation of the application of resources. Did I get what I wanted? No. Did I get what I felt was required? No," said Ham, now the president of the nonprofit Association of the U.S. Army. "Did I feel that my resource requirements were adequately and thoroughly considered in balance with the global requirements? The answer to that would be yes. I never felt like I was denied the opportunity to make the case."

Under President Barack Obama, the White House often pressed the Pentagon to find more surveillance flights for operations in Africa, said Brian McKeon, who served as both a Pentagon and White House official in the Obama administration. The expectation in the latter years of the Obama administration was that a withdrawal of U.S. troops from Afghanistan would free up some surveillance aircraft, he said, but it did not work out that way.

"The assessment gets to a point where it's much more dangerous to be out and about with the host nation forces, and they don't have the assets to provide sufficient backup and personnel recovery," McKeon said. "Obviously, that's probably going to lead to a decision where there is fewer patrols out and about."

The operation in Niger served as a reminder to American citizens that U.S. troops are deployed on their behalf in places they do not necessarily consider safe, said retired Air Force Col. Erik Goepner, a visiting research fellow at the libertarian Cato Institute. Those operations sometimes create enemies, especially when the United States kills civilians, he said.

"I think American citizens should rightfully ask, 'How do we define this mission set?'" he said of Niger. "Is it building up indigenous forces, and is that the extent of it? If so, great. Or, are we doing kill-capture missions? Because if we're doing kill-capture missions, the horror of war is that you'll always kill the wrong guy some numbers."

"That is just by definition what happens when you are using military force against people."

## WAR ON TERRORISM

# Dunford in Afghanistan to evaluate campaign

By LOLITA C. BALDOR

Associated Press

BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan — The top U.S. military officer visited Afghanistan on Monday to evaluate the military campaign and ensure new American advisory teams and an upgraded Afghan Air Force are on target as the next fighting season with the Taliban looms.

Gen. Joseph Dunford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said he wants to understand the goals for the coming months so the U.S.-led coalition can develop ways to measure progress in the fight.

Dunford told reporters traveling with him that he seeks "a discussion about measures of effectiveness." A key question, Dunford said, is how the U.S. will know that it's where it needs to be in implementing what is, in actuality, the Afghans' plan.

The idea of benchmarks for progress in the Afghan War has been simmering for several months as the Pentagon looks to end America's longest war. Measuring success will be a key part of White House discussions this summer when President Donald Trump looks for a one-year assessment of his new regional strategy. Last August, a reluctant Trump had to be persuaded to inject new U.S. troops into the conflict, which is now in its 17th year.

"The intent really is to get my own assessment of what we can expect over the next couple months," said Dunford, who commanded U.S. and coalition forces in Afghanistan from February 2013 to August 2014. He said a major focus will be ensuring Gen. John Nicholson, the top U.S. commander in Afghanistan, has the resources he needs.

Dunford's visit comes on the heels of a two-day stop in Afghanistan last week by Defense Secretary Jim Mattis amid talk of a renewed push to get Taliban fighters to the peace table with the Afghan government. The increased U.S. military campaign is seen as part of that effort. It includes hundreds of additional Army trainers and advisers who will work with Afghan troops closer to the fight, with the goal of turning the corner on what has been a stubborn stalemate with the Taliban and other insurgent groups.

About five weeks ago, the Army's new training brigade deployed to Afghanistan with about 1,000 soldiers. It included close to 600 trainers and advisers and hundreds of security forces and other support personnel. The so-called Security Force Assistance Brigade is part of the broad new strategy that has pushed the Afghan conflict back to the top of the Pentagon's warfighting priority list.

In addition to troops, the U.S. has also sent more intelligence and surveillance aircraft, A-10 attack planes and combat search-and-rescue aircraft to the fight. Many of those resources have been shifted from Iraq and Syria, where the battle against Islamic State militants is waning. The U.S. also is providing more fighter aircraft and other support to the Afghan Air Force while increasing the number of American forces on the ground to more than 14,000.

The growth in the Afghan Air Force has long been a goal but has come along slowly. Dunford said he wants to hear from U.S. and Afghan leaders that the introduction of the aircraft and the needed maintenance and other support is on the right path.



DHA-DEPO PHOTOS/AP

**Turkish soldiers are positioned Monday in the city center of Afrin, Syria, a day after they took control of the area. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said Monday his country will expand its military operations into other Kurdish-held areas in Syria as well as in Iraq's Sinjar region.**

## Turkey threatens to expand offensive

By SARAH EL DEEB  
AND SUZAN FRASER

Associated Press

BEIRUT — Turkey's president vowed Monday to keep up the pressure against a U.S.-backed Syrian Kurdish militia after his troops captured the Syrian town of Afrin, threatening to expand the military offensive into other Kurdish-held areas across northern Syria and even into neighboring Iraq.

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan appeared set on forcing Washington to reconsider its partnership with the Syrian Kurdish fighters, the main U.S. ally in the fight against Islamic State.

Turkey first launched its military operation in Syria in 2016, and Erdogan has repeatedly said it will not allow a "terror corridor" along its border — a reference to territories controlled by the Kurdish forces, which Turkey views as terrorists because of their links to Kurdish insurgents fighting inside Turkey.

Emboldened by Sunday's capture of Afrin, Erdogan went even further on Monday, asserting that Turkish troops and allied Syrian forces would press eastward, targeting territory that includes Kobani, a town that has become a symbol of the fight against ISIS, as well as Qamishli, where the Syrian government controls an airport and a secure zone.

Also in the crosshairs is Manbij, a town jointly patrolled by U.S. and Kurdish forces and where U.S. bases are housed, triggering concerns over potential friction with U.S. troops. Erdogan even threatened to target Iraq's Sinjar mountains, used by Kurdish fighters to move between Iraq and Syria, and which Turkey claims is a stronghold for the outlawed Kurdish rebels fighting an insurgency in its southeast.

"We'll continue this process until we completely abolish this corridor," Erdogan said. "One night, we could suddenly enter Sinjar."

Nicholas Heras, a Middle East security fellow at the Washington-based Center for a New American Security, said the capture of Afrin was a "milestone" for Turkey in Syria but was not the end of its campaign against the Kurdish militia, known as the Syrian Kurdish People's Defense Units, or YPG.

"The final destination is a Turkish war on the Kurds throughout northern and eastern Syria that destroys the YPG and forces the

**'We'll continue this process until we completely abolish this corridor. One night, we could suddenly enter Sinjar'**

Turkey President Recep Tayyip Erdogan

Americans to work by, with and through Turkey" in the fight against ISIS and in Syria, he said.

U.S. support of Syria's Kurdish militia, which Turkey views as a threat to its national security, has soured relations between the two NATO allies. Ankara has accused the U.S. of not fulfilling a promise to move Syrian Kurdish fighters out of Manbij. Seeking to ease tensions, U.S. and Turkish officials held talks about Manbij earlier this month following a visit by outgoing U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson. But with Tillerson's firing, the next round of talks has been postponed.

Ozgur Unluhacioglu, the Ankara director of the German Marshall Fund of the United States think tank, said the capture of Afrin had fulfilled Turkey's aim of preventing the Kurdish militia from linking up its territories in eastern and western Syria, and Erdogan's threat to expand the military operation was a bargaining chip aimed at Washington.

"Politically, though, it would be very difficult to accomplish," he said.

Formidable guerrilla fighters, the YPG withdrew from Afrin on Sunday after a Turkish thrust into the town center. They have vowed to continue the fight, using hit-and-run attacks against Turkish troops in Afrin.

Such an insurgency could prove to be "a big thorn" for the U.S. military operation in Syria, Heras said. "A YPG insurgency in Afrin would prompt Turkey to escalate against the Kurds throughout northern Syria, jeopardizing the U.S.-led mission to stabilize the areas captured" from ISIS militants, he said.

Already, thousands of Kurdish fighters have been redeployed away from front

lines with ISIS to take part in the Afrin battle, threatening to distract from the fight against the extremists.

Turkey's state-run news agency said 11 people — seven civilians and four Turkish-backed Syrian fighters — were killed Monday in an explosion as a building in the town center was being cleared of booby traps. Anatoliy News agency said the bomb was reportedly left by the Syrian Kurdish fighters.

The Turkish takeover of Afrin has triggered a humanitarian crisis as thousands of residents fled the town to government-held areas. Once a safe area for tens of thousands of displaced Syrians from other parts of the conflict, Afrin residents have become Syria's new homeless.

The U.S. State Department said it was "deeply concerned" over the humanitarian situation following Turkey's capture of Afrin. The European Union's top diplomat also criticized the Turkish military offensive in Afrin, calling on Ankara to work to halt the fighting in Syria. Federica Mogherini told reporters in Brussels that international efforts in Syria should be aimed at "de-escalating the military activities and not escalating them."

A senior Kurdish official, Aldar Khalil, called the Turkish offensive an "occupation" that endangers "the whole of northern Syria."

Erdogan insisted Turkey had no intention of "occupying" Syria, saying it was merely clearing the border area of terrorists.

But panic has already set in among Afrin's residents, most of them Kurds, who fear Turkey will bring in loyalists and some of the 3 million Syrian refugees living inside its borders to repopulate the town. Some 200,000 people fled Afrin in recent days as the Turkish offensive escalated, and whether they will be permitted to return remains an open question.

Many feared revenge attacks amid reports of looting and abuse of residents in the town.

Images emerged of torched stores and men, some in uniform and others in civilian clothes, walking out of homes with household goods. Others were seen driving away with tractors and agriculture supplies.

A commander with the Turkey-backed Syrian forces blamed the looting on "thieves," and said a unit had been created to prevent further theft.

## NATION

# Another package bomb in Texas

BY PAUL J. WEBER  
AND WILL WEISSERT  
Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — A package bomb believed to be linked to the recent bombings in Austin exploded early Tuesday inside a FedEx distribution center near San Antonio, leaving one worker with minor injuries, and a second unexploded bomb was found at the same facility, authorities said.

Hours later, police sent a hazardous materials team to a FedEx facility in Austin to check on a suspicious package there, but there was no immediate word about whether that package contained explosives.

FBI agent Michelle Lee said the explosion happened about 1 a.m. at a FedEx facility in Schertz, which is just northeast of San Antonio and about 60 miles southwest of Austin. A worker was treated for minor injuries and released, police said.

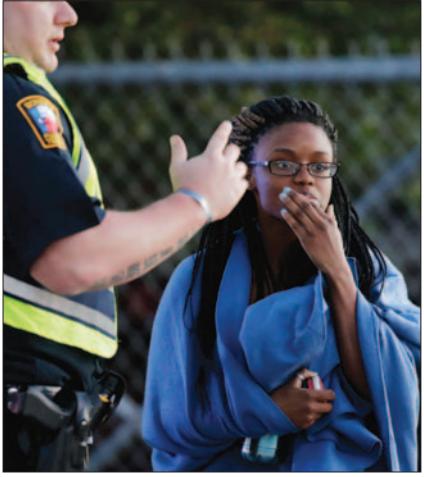
"It would be silly for us not to admit that we suspect it's related" to the four Austin bombings that have killed two people and injured four others since March 2, Lee said. She did not have details about the size, weight or description of the package.

The package was on a conveyor belt when it detonated. One worker reported ringing in her ears after the blast. She was treated at a hospital and released.

Before it exploded, the package had been sent from Austin and was addressed to a home in Austin, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton told Austin television station KXAN.

Schertz police Chief Michael Hansen said the intended target of the bomb was not the shipping facility or anyone in Schertz.

The FedEx blast came less than two days after another bombing wounded two men Sunday night in a quiet Austin neighborhood. It was triggered by a nearly invisible tripwire, suggesting a "higher level of sophistication"



PHOTOS BY ERIC GAY/AP

An employee wrapped in a blanket talks to a police officer after she was evacuated at a FedEx distribution center where a package exploded Tuesday in Schertz, Texas.



A police officer stops a vehicle at a checkpoint in front of the center.

than agents saw in three package bombs left on doorsteps, according to Fred Milaniowski, agent-in-charge of the Houston division of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Authorities have not identified the two men who were hurt Sunday, saying only that they are in their 20s and white. But William Grote told The Associated Press on Monday that his grandson was one of them and that he had what appeared to be nails embedded in his knees.

Police described the men's injuries as significant, and both remained hospitalized Monday in stable condition.

Grote said his grandson was in a lot of pain. On the night of the bombing, one of the victims was riding a bike in the street and the other was on a sidewalk when

they crossed a tripwire that he said knocked "them both off their feet."

"It was so dark, they couldn't tell and they tripped," he said. "They didn't see it. It was a wire. And it blew up."

Grote said his son, who lives about 100 yards from the blast, heard the explosion and raced outside to find both of the young men bleeding profusely.

The presence of a tripwire was a departure from the first three bombings, which involved parcels left on doorsteps that detonated when moved or opened.

The tripwire heightened fears around Austin, a town famous for its cool, hipster attitude.

"It's creepy," said Erin Mays, 33. "I'm not a scared person, but this feels very next-door neighbor kind of stuff."

# What's Your Story?

## STARS AND STRIPES Month of the Military Child

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weapon.

Outside the school, a line of about 20 school buses formed on the street in front of the building. Ambulances, firetrucks and other emergency vehicles crowded the parking lot and the street. No students or parents could be seen outside at midmorning.

St. Mary's County Public Schools said the situation was "contained" after the shooting at Great Mills High School, which has about 1,600 students and is near the Patuxent River Naval Air Station, about 65 miles southeast of Washington.

Agents with the FBI and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives joined deputies at the scene. The county sheriff said parents were told to stay away, and urged to go instead to Leonardtown High School to reunite with Great Mills students.

Many students across the country are calling for effective gun controls, leading up to Saturday's March for Our Lives rally in the nation's capital against gun violence in schools. The violence hasn't abated since the massacre in Parkland, Fla., and Great Mills High has not been immune.

Just last month, the school's principal, Jake Heitbel, told parents in a letter posted on the local news site The Bay Net that two students were interviewed after they were overheard mentioning a school shooting, and they were found to be carrying weapons. Maryland's Senate joined the House Monday night to ban bump stocks, which enable a semi-automatic rifle to mimic a fully automatic rifle "circulated quite extensively."

## Md. student dies after wounding 2 others

BY ALEX BRANDON  
Associated Press

GREAT MILLS, Md. — A teenager with a handgun shot a girl and boy inside his Maryland high school Tuesday before he was fatally wounded during a confrontation with a school resource officer, a sheriff said.

The officer and the teenager both fired a single shot at that point, and it wasn't immediately clear whether he took his own life or was killed by the officer's bullet, St. Mary's County Sheriff Tim Cameron said. The other students were hospitalized in critical condition, and the officer was uninjured.

"When the shooting took place, our school resource officer, who was stationed inside the school, was alerted to the event and the shots were fired. He pursued the shooter and engaged the shooter, during which that engagement he fired a round at the shooter," Cameron said.

"Simultaneously, the shooter fired a round as well. So, in the hours to come, in the days to come, through a detailed investigation, we will be able to determine if our SRO's round struck the shooter."

This latest shooting comes as lawmakers nationwide face pressure to take action against gun violence following the Valentine's Day killing of 17 people at a Florida high school by a teenager with an assault weapon. Maryland's Senate joined the House Monday night to ban bump stocks, which enable a semi-automatic rifle to mimic a fully automatic rifle "circulated quite extensively."

## Suspect's brother arrested at site of school shooting

Associated Press

MIAMI — The brother of the teen who confessed to gunning down 17 people at a Florida high school spent the night in jail after he was arrested for trespassing on the campus.

Broward Sheriff's deputies arrested Zachary Cruz, 18, on Monday afternoon, saying he rode his skateboard onto the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School campus after being warned to stay away. They put him in the same Fort Lauderdale jail where his brother, Nikolas Cruz, 19, has been housed since the Feb. 14 shooting.



Zachary Cruz

Broward Schools Superintendent Robert Runcie called Zachary Cruz's actions odd and said, "I understand it does creep people out."

Survivors of the shooting are rallying interest in Saturday's March for Our Lives in Washington. Some joined a panel discussion about guns Tuesday night at Harvard University.



TEMPLE  
Japan Campus

## NATION

# Spending bill held up by 2 projects

BY ANDREW TAYLOR  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Battles over priorities in a huge government-wide spending bill are essentially settled, leaving a scaled-back plan for President Donald Trump's border wall and a huge rail project that pits Trump against Capitol Hill's most powerful Democrat as the top issues to be solved.

Efforts to tackle politically charged immigration issues and rapidly rising health insurance premiums appeared to be faltering. Capitol Hill Democrats rejected a White House bid to extend protections for so-called Dreamer immigrants in exchange for \$25 billion in funding for a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border. Democrats appeared likely to yield on \$1.6 billion in wall funding, Trump's official request for the 2018 budget year, but they were digging in against Trump's plans to hire hundreds of new immigration agents.

A dispute over abortion seemed likely to scuttle a Senate GOP plan to provide billions in federal subsidies to insurers to help curb health insurance premium increases.

Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., was working on Trump's behalf, again funding for a Madison River tunnel and rail project that's important to Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., and Republicans from New York and New Jersey.

Monday's developments were described by several lawmakers as well as congressional aides in both parties who spoke on condition of anonymity because the talks remain secretive.

House and Senate action is needed by midnight Friday to avert another government shutdown.

The bill would implement last month's budget agreement, providing 10 percent increases for the Pentagon and domestic agencies. Coupled with last year's tax cuts, it heralds the end of \$1 trillion budget deficits as soon as the budget year starts in October.

Many battles over policy riders were sorted out in marathon negotiations over the weekend. As is typical, many of the policy issues were melting away.

"We've had at least 100 that we've taken out," said Vermont Sen. Patrick Leahy, top Democrat on the Appropriations Committee.

For instance, an effort to add a plan to revive federal subsidies to stabilize the individual health insurance market and help the poor cover out-of-pocket costs under President Barack Obama's health law appeared to be failing. A complicated dispute involving abortion was at fault.



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

Senate Intelligence Committee Chairman Sen. Richard Burr, R-N.C., right, confers with committee Vice Chairman Mark Warner, D-Va., during a hearing on Capitol Hill in Washington last June.

## Senators to preview proposals on improving election systems

BY MARY CLARE JALONICK  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — With the 2018 primary season already underway, leaders of the Senate Intelligence Committee are launching an effort to protect U.S. elections from a repeat episode of foreign interference.

Senate Intelligence Committee Chairman Richard Burr, R-N.C., and Virginia Sen. Mark Warner, the top Democrat on the panel, previewed some of the committee's recommendations for improving the nation's election infrastructure at a news conference Tuesday.

On Wednesday, the committee will hold a hearing examining attempted hacks on state election systems in 2016 and the federal and state response to those efforts.

The committee has prepared a larger report on the issue, one of what could be several reports to come out of the committee's investigation into Russian meddling in the 2016 election.

Burr and Warner said this report is the most urgent because of the threat it could happen again in 2018.

It's unclear when the full report will be released, but it is expected to include recommendations for elections officials around the country and also

**"We've got bipartisan agreement we have to do something on this."**

Sen. Mark Warner  
D-Va.

proposals for legislation to help ward off the hacking.

Overall, experts say far too little has been done to shore up vulnerabilities in 10,000 U.S. voting jurisdictions that mostly run on obsolete and imperfectly secured technology.

Russian agents targeted election systems in 21 states ahead of the 2016 general election, the Homeland Security Department has said, and separately launched a social media blitz aimed at inflaming social tensions and sowing confusion.

Top U.S. intelligence officials have said they've seen indications Russian agents are preparing a new round of election subterfuge this year.

There's no evidence that any hack in the November 2016 election affected election results, but the attempts scared state election officials who sought answers about how their systems had been potentially compromised.

The DHS took nearly a year to inform the affected states

of hacking attempts, blaming it in part on a lack of security clearances. Lawmakers in both parties have pressed the department on why it took so long.

Warner has said he thinks the process to prevent such hacking needs to be more robust, especially since President Donald Trump has not addressed the matter as an urgent problem.

"We've got bipartisan agreement we have to do something on this," Warner said earlier this year.

At the hearing Wednesday, former Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson and current Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen will both testify.

The Senate intelligence panel has put off making any assessments about whether Trump's 2016 campaign in any way coordinated with Russia. Though that is one part of the panel's investigation, Burr and Warner have decided to focus on less controversial issues where all members agree.

## GOP leaders waiting out Trump storm on Mueller

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — More Republicans are telling President Donald Trump in ever blunter terms to lay off his escalating criticism of special counsel Robert Mueller and the Russia probe. But party leaders are taking no action to protect Mueller, embracing a familiar strategy with the president — simply waiting out the storm.

Trump blistered Mueller and his investigation all weekend on Twitter and started in again Monday, questioning the probe's legitimacy with language no recent president has used for a federal inquiry. "A total WITCH HUNT with massive conflicts of interest!" Trump tweeted.

Mueller is leading a criminal probe into whether Trump's 2016 presidential campaign had ties to Russia and whether there has been obstruction of justice since then.

Trump was told to cut it out on Sunday by such notable Republicans as Rep. Trey Gowdy, chairman of the House Oversight Committee, and Sen. Bob Corker, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Then on Monday, he was told that firing Mueller would be "the stupidest thing the president could do" by Sen. Orrin Hatch, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee.

But Hatch, on CNN, also said he didn't see any need for legislation to protect Mueller. And that sentiment was widely echoed by GOP leaders.

Democrats say legislation is needed. "Immediately," said Sen. Richard Blumenthal, of Connecticut. And Arizona Republican Jeff Flake, a frequent Trump critic, said, "If you don't pick this fight, then we might as well not be here."

White House lawyer Ty Cobb issued a statement Sunday tamping down the speculation, saying Trump is not "considering or discussing" Mueller's removal. White House spokesman Hogan Gidley said Trump has "some well-established frustration" about the probe but insisted there is no internal discussion about removing Mueller.

Separately, Trump's legal team has provided documents to Mueller summarizing their views on key matters being investigated, according to a person familiar with the situation. That person insisted on anonymity to discuss the ongoing investigation.

The records were given as Trump's lawyers negotiate with Mueller's team about the scope and terms of a possible interview with the president.

Also, Trump added a new lawyer, Joseph diGenova, a former U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia, will join his team later this week.

DiGenova has been outspoken in his defense of Trump, talking of a "brazen plot" to exonerate Hillary Clinton in an email investigation and to "frame" Trump with a "falsely created crime."

## NATION

# Self-driving Uber strikes, kills pedestrian in Ariz.

By FELICIA FONSECA  
AND TOM KRISHER  
Associated Press

A self-driving Uber SUV struck and killed a pedestrian in suburban Phoenix in the first death involving a fully autonomous test vehicle — a crash that could have far-reaching consequences for the new technology.

The fatal Sunday night in Tempe was the event many in the auto and technology industries were dreading but knew was inevitable.

Uber immediately suspended all road-testing of such autos in the Phoenix area, Pittsburgh, San Francisco and Toronto. The testing has been going on for months as automakers and technology companies like the ride-hailing service compete to be the first with cars that operate on their own.

The Volvo was in self-driving mode with a human backup driver at the wheel when it hit Elaine Herzberg, 49, as she was walk-

ing a bicycle outside the lines of a crosswalk, police said. She died at a hospital.

Uber CEO Dara Khosrowshahi expressed condolences on his Twitter account and said the company is working with local law enforcement on the investigation.

The National Transportation Safety Board, which makes recommendations for preventing crashes, and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, which can enact regulations, sent investigators.

Tempe police Sgt. Ronald Elcock said local authorities haven't drawn any conclu-

sions about who is at fault but urged people to use crosswalks. He told reporters at a news conference Monday the Uber vehicle was traveling about 40 mph when it hit Herzberg immediately as she stepped onto the street. Neither she nor the backup driver showed signs of impairment, he said.

The public's image of the vehicles will be defined by stories like the crash in Tempe, said Bryan Walker Smith, a University of South Carolina law professor who studies self-driving vehicles.

Although the Uber vehicle and its human backup could be at fault, it may turn out that there was nothing either could have done to stop the crash, he said.

Either way, the fatality could hurt the technology's image and lead to a push for more regulations at the state and federal levels, Smith said.

Autonomous vehicles with laser, radar and camera sensors and sophisticated computers have been billed as the way to reduce the more than 40,000 traffic deaths a year in the U.S. alone. Ninety-four per-

cent of crashes are caused by human error, the government says.

Autonomous vehicles don't drive drunk, don't get sleepy and aren't easily distracted. But they do have faults.

"We should be concerned about automated driving," Smith said. "We should be terrified about human driving."

In 2016, the latest year available, more than 6,000 U.S. pedestrians were killed by vehicles.

The federal government has voluntary guidelines for companies that want to test autonomous vehicles, leaving much of the regulation up to states. Many states, including Michigan and Arizona, have taken a largely hands-off approach, hoping to gain jobs from the new technology, while California and others have taken a harder line.

Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey used light regulations to entice Uber to the state after the company had a shaky rollout of test cars in San Francisco. Arizona has no reporting requirements. Hundreds of vehicles with automated driving systems have been on Arizona's roads.

## Storms leave trail of damage across South

Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, Ala. — Emergency crews were converging on Jacksonville State University Tuesday in east Alabama, where storms slammed into the campus and did major damage to the coliseum.

Jacksonville was among the hardest-hit communities as storms swept across the South, part of a large system that prompted tornado warnings Monday in Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia. Several shelters opened, local schools were closed, trees and power lines were down and Jacksonville State was advising people to avoid traveling near campus Tuesday morning.

"I can confirm we have major roof damage at Pete Mathews Coliseum, but the Pete is not completely destroyed," the university's athletic director, Greg Seitz, tweeted. He sent an update later describing major roof damage to two halls, and expressing his thanks that JSU was on spring

break this week and that most students are out of town.

Schools also were closed in the area Tuesday due to storm damage, the Calhoun County Emergency Management Office said.

Forecasters had warned that the storms would threaten more than 29 million people, raising the risk of powerful tornadoes, damaging winds and hail the size of tennis balls.

Cities in northern Alabama reported power outages, and the National Weather Service in Huntsville reported at least three confirmed tornadoes in the area.

In Alabama's Limestone County, which borders Tennessee, the sheriff's office posted photos online of houses with roofs ripped off and outbuildings torn from their foundations.

Several roads were closed because of power lines or trees, the office tweeted. But it had no reports of injuries from the storms.

The National Weather Service issued a tornado watch for much

of northern Georgia as the line moved eastward.

Forecasters had said the storm threat was unusually dangerous because of the possibility of several tornadoes, some of which could be intense. The weather service said hail as large as 3 inches



Friends and family help homeowners Michael and Phyllis Shell collect items from their home after a possible tornado destroyed it in Ardmore, Ala., on Monday.

in diameter could fall, and there was a possibility of wind gusts to 70 mph.

"The potential for strong to violent, long-track tornadoes is a real possibility," Alabama state meteorologist Jim Stefkovic said at a Monday news conference.

Alabama Emergency Management Executive Operations Officer Jeff Smitherman raised the threat level and increased staffing at Alabama's emergency management agency. The storms were the first severe weather to threaten the state this year.

## Scandal-hit Weinstein Co. files for bankruptcy, allows victims to speak out

By ALEXANDRA OLSON  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The Weinstein Co. filed for bankruptcy protection on Monday with a buyout offer in hand from a private equity firm, the latest twist in its efforts to survive the sexual misconduct scandal that brought down co-founder Harvey Weinstein, shook Hollywood and triggered a movement that spread out to convulse other industries.

The company also announced it was releasing any victims of or witnesses to Weinstein's alleged misconduct from nondisclosure agreements preventing them

from speaking out. That step had long been sought by New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman, who filed a lawsuit against the company last month on behalf of its employees.

"Since October, it has been reported that Harvey Weinstein used nondisclosure agreements as a secret weapon to silence his accusers. Effectively, immediately, those 'agreements' end," the company said in a statement. "No one should be afraid to speak out or coerced to stay quiet."

In a statement, Schneiderman praised the decision as a watershed moment for efforts to address the corrosive effects of sexual

misconduct in the workplace."

The movie and TV studio is the first high-profile company to be forced into bankruptcy in the nation-wide outcry over workplace sexual misconduct. Dozens of prominent men in entertainment, media, finance, politics and other realms have seen their careers derailed, but no other company has seen its very survival as tight-

ly intertwined with the fate of one man as the Weinstein Co.

Some 80 women, including prominent actresses, have accused Harvey Weinstein of misconduct ranging from rape to harassment. Weinstein, who was fired as his company's CEO in October, has denied any allegations of nonconsensual sex.

The Weinstein Co. said it has entered into a "stalking horse" agreement with an affiliate of Dallas-based Lantern Capital Partners, meaning the equity firm has agreed to buy the company, subject to approval by the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Delaware. Lantern was among a group of

investors that had been in talks for months to buy the company outside of bankruptcy. That deal was complicated when Schneiderman filed his lawsuit, citing concerns that the sale would benefit executives accused of enabling Weinstein's alleged misconduct and provide insufficient guarantees of compensation for his accusers.

Talks to revive the sale finally fell apart two weeks ago when the group of buyers said they had discovered undisclosed liabilities.

The Weinstein Co. said it chose Lantern as a potential buyer because the firm was committed to keeping on the studio's employees as a going concern.



Weinstein

## NATION



BLAIRE SIMMONS, THE (HAMPTON, BERMUDA) ROYAL GAZETTE/AP

Parents John and Lisa Dombroski stand with their sons, John, center, and Kevin during a press conference Monday regarding their missing son and brother, Mark, at the Hamilton Police Station in Hamilton, Bermuda.

## Bermuda officials say body of missing student found

*The Philadelphia Inquirer*

PHILADELPHIA — The search for a St. Joseph's University freshman who was reported missing in Bermuda over the weekend ended Monday afternoon when his body was found in a moat outside a historic fort, police said.

Several hundred St. Joseph's students and staff members learned of 19-year-old Mark Dombroski's death at the university's chapel, where they had gathered to pray for his safe return. As the vigil ended, many of those who poured out cried and embraced one another.

"There's deep grief," said Mary Brown, a Latin professor who went to the vigil to support her students. "Everyone's very, very shaken by the loss."

Dombroski, of Media, Pa., went to the British island territory last week for a rugby tournament with other members of the St. Joseph's team. He was last seen on video footage at 1:15 a.m. Sunday about a mile and a half from a bar he had left an hour earlier.

James Howard, acting assistant commissioner of Bermuda Police Services, said foul play had not been ruled out. He said an autopsy would be performed. Dombroski's body was found in a wooded area

less than 300 yards from a police station and about a half-mile from the stadium where the tournament was held.

Dombroski's parents had accompanied the team on the trip. On Monday, his mother, Lisa, joined by her husband, John, and their other two sons, had pleaded for anyone with information to contact authorities "and help bring our son back."

Police said Dombroski did not appear to have been inebriated when he went missing.

Police said Dombroski had been with teammates at the Dog House, a bar on the waterfront

in Hamilton, Bermuda's capital. He left shortly after midnight. At 1:09 a.m. he was spotted nearby on surveillance camera video. At 1:15 a.m. another camera recorded him using his cellphone on Middle Road, about 1.5 miles from the Dog House, police said.

His family reported him missing at 9:39 a.m. Sunday. The family was scheduled to return home later that day.

Lisa Dombroski said she believed her son had decided to call it a night before his friends. She said he had hurt his shoulder in the tournament and could be seen in the surveillance footage "favoring his arm."

"He wasn't enjoying the party atmosphere as some of the boys were," she said. "I think he probably wanted to get back to where they were staying."

The search was extensive. Police said they checked every public CCTV on the 20.5-square-mile island. A marine unit searched Hamilton's harbor. Two teams fanned out over the Bermuda Aruboretum, a 22-acre national park. Civilians donated drones to the cause.



Dombroski

## Window seat appears to be best for air travelers worried about germs

*Associated Press*

NEW YORK — Worried about catching a cold or the flu on an airplane? Get a window seat, and don't leave it until the flight is over.

There's been little research on the risks of catching a cold or flu during air travel, but some experts have been saying for years that sitting in a window seat would keep a passenger away from infectious people who may be on the aisle or moving around. It's perhaps the best advice coming out of a new attempt to determine the risks of catching germs on an airplane.

A new study published Monday came to the same conclusion. The study was ambitious. Squads of researchers jetted

around the U.S. to test cabin surfaces and air for viruses and to observe how people came into contact with each other. But it also had shortcomings. In 10 flights, they observed only one person coughing. And though the experiment was done during a flu season five years ago, they didn't find even one of cold and flu viruses they tested for.

It's possible that the researchers were unlucky in that they were on planes that happened to not have sick people on them, said the study's lead researcher, Vicki Stover Hertzberg, of Emory University in Atlanta. The new study was initiated and funded by Boeing Co. The Chicago-based jet manufacturer also recruited one of

the researchers, Georgia Tech's Howard Weiss, and had input in the writing of the results.

The researchers did some mathematical modeling and computer simulations to determine how likely people were to come close to a hypothetical infectious passenger sitting in an aisle seat on the 14th row of a single-aisle airplane. They concluded that on average, only one person on a flight of about 150 passengers would be infected.

Researchers who were not involved said it would be difficult to use the relatively small study to make any general conclusions about the risks of an airline passenger getting sick.

## Federal judge to hear arguments on Miss. abortion ban

By JEFF AMY  
AND SARAH MEARHOFF  
*Associated Press*

JACKSON, Miss. — The nation's most restrictive abortion law is headed for a showdown before a federal judge only hours after it was signed by Mississippi's governor.

U.S. District Judge Carlton Reeves late Monday scheduled arguments Tuesday morning over whether he should immediately block the law after a request by the state's only abortion clinic and a physician who works there.

Republican Gov. Phil Bryant signed House Bill 1510 on Monday, immediately banning most abortions after 15 weeks of gestation.

How quickly will the effects of the law be felt in Mississippi? Dr. Sacheen Carr-Ellis, of the Jackson Women's Health Organization, stated in court papers that a woman 15 weeks or more pregnant is scheduled for a Tuesday afternoon abortion.

The law and responding challenge set up a confrontation sought by abortion opponents, who are hoping federal courts will ultimately prohibit abortions before a fetus is viable. Current federal law does not.

Some legal experts have said a change in the law is unlikely unless the makeup of the U.S. Supreme Court changes in a way that favors abortion opponents.

"We are saving more of the unborn than any state in America, and what better thing can we do?" Bryant said in a video his office posted on social media.

The law's only exceptions are if a fetus has health problems making it "incompatible with life" outside of the womb at full term, or if a pregnant woman's life or a "major bodily function" is threatened by pregnancy. Pregnancies resulting from rape and incest aren't exempted.

Mississippi previously tied with North Carolina for the nation's strictest abortion limits at 20 weeks. Both states count pregnan-

cy as beginning on the first day of a woman's previous menstrual period. That means the restrictions kick in about two weeks before those of states whose 20-week bans begin at conception.

"We'll probably be sued in about half an hour," Bryant said to supporters as he signed the bill. "That'll be fine with me. It'll be worth fighting over."

Bryant's prediction was accurate. The state's only abortion clinic and one of the physicians who practices there sued in federal court within an hour, arguing the law violates other federal court rulings saying a state can't restrict abortion before a child can survive on its own outside the womb.

The Jackson Women's Health Organization, in a lawsuit handled by the Center of Reproductive Rights, argued the measure is unconstitutional and should immediately be struck down.

"Under decades of United States Supreme Court precedent, the state of Mississippi cannot ban abortion prior to viability, regardless of what exceptions are provided to the ban," the suit states.

The suit says the clinic performed 78 abortions in 2017 when the fetus was identified as being 15 weeks or older. That's out of about 2,500 abortions performed statewide, mostly at the clinic.

Carr-Ellis, in a sworn statement, says she'll have to stop providing abortions to women past the 15 week ban, or else lose her Mississippi medical license, as House Bill 1510 requires. She says women shouldn't be forced to carry their pregnancies to term against their wills or leave the state to obtain abortions.

"A woman who is pregnant should have the ability to make the decision that is best for her about the course of her pregnancy, based on her own values and goals for her life," Carr-Ellis said in the statement.

### Habits of airline travelers

- About 38 percent of passengers never left their seat, 38 percent left once, 13 percent left twice and 11 percent left more than twice.
- About 80 percent of the people sitting on the aisle moved at least once during their flights, compared with 62 percent in middle seats and 43 percent in window seats.
- The 11 people sitting closest to a person with a cold or flu are at the highest risk. That included the two people sitting to their left, the two to their right and people in the rows immediately in front of them and behind.

From The Associated Press

# THE STARS AND STRIPES

Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces

Vol. 1—No. 241

1 Fr.

in the European Theater of Operations

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Sunday, March 25, 1945

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## NATION

# Trump urges death penalty for some drug traffickers

BY JONATHAN LEMIRE  
AND DARLENE SUPERVILLE  
Associated Press

MANCHESTER, N.H. — Embracing the tough penalties favored by global strongmen, President Donald Trump on Monday brandished the death penalty as a fitting punishment for drug traffickers fueling the opioid epidemic.

The scourge has torn through the rural and working-class communities that in large numbers voted for Trump. And the president, though he has come under criticism for being slow to unveil his plan, has seized on harsh sentences as key to stopping the plague.

"Toughness is the thing that they most fear," Trump said.

The president made his announcement in New Hampshire, a state hit hard by opioids and an early marker for the re-election campaign he has already announced. Trump called for broadening education and awareness about drug addiction while expanding access to proven treatment and recovery efforts. But the backbone of his plan is to toughen punishments for those caught trafficking highly addictive drugs.

"This isn't about nice anymore," Trump said. "This is about winning a very, very tough problem and if we don't get very tough on these dealers it's not going to happen folks. ... I want to win this battle."

The president formalized what he had long mulled about: that if a person in the U.S. can get the death penalty or life in prison for shooting one person, a similar punishment should be given to a drug dealer whose product has potentially killed thousands.

Trump has long spoken approvingly about countries such as Singapore that harshly punish dealers. During a trip to Asia last fall, he did not publicly rebuke Philippines President Rodrigo Duterte, who authorized extrajudicial killings of drug dealers.

Outside a local firehouse that Trump visited before Monday's speech, someone compared the two leaders with a sign that read, "Donald J. Duterte."

"Drug traffickers kill so many thousands of our citizens every year," Trump said. "That's why my Department of Justice will be seeking so many tougher penalties than we've ever had and we'll be focusing on the penalties that I talked about previously for big pushers, the ones that are killing so many people, and that penalty is going to be the death penalty."

He added: "Other countries don't play games ... But the ultimate penalty has to be the death penalty."

The Justice Department said the federal death penalty is available for limited drug-related offenses, including violations of the "drug kingpin" provisions in federal law.

It is not clear if the death penalty, even for traffickers whose product causes multiple deaths, would

be constitutional. Doug Berman, a law professor at Ohio State University, predicted the issue would go all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The president's plan drew criticism from some Democrats, including Sen. Dick Durbin, of Illinois, who said "we can't arrest our way out of the opioid epidemic" and noted that "the war on drugs didn't work in the '80s."

Opioids, including prescription opioids, heroin and synthetic drugs such as fentanyl, killed more than 42,000 people in the U.S. in 2016, more than any other year on record, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Much of what Trump highlighted Monday was largely repackaged ideas he's already endorsed.

He called for a nationwide public awareness campaign, which he announced in the fall, including broadcasting "great commercials" to scare kids away from dabbling in drugs. He announced a new website, [www.crisisnextdoor.gov](http://www.crisisnextdoor.gov), where members of the public can share stories about the dangers of opioid addiction.

Trump said the administration will work to cut the number of opioid prescriptions that are filled by one-third within three years.

The president also discussed how his policies, including building a U.S.-Mexico border wall and punishing "sanctuary" cities that refuse to comply with federal immigration authorities, will help reduce the flow of drugs.

Monday was Trump's first visit as president to New Hampshire, which has long occupied a special place in his political rise. He captured his first Republican presidential primary here in 2016, though he narrowly lost in the general election to Democrat Hillary Clinton.

Trump drew criticism last year after leaked transcripts of a telephone conversation with Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto showed he had described New Hampshire as a "drug-infested den." The Washington Post published the transcripts.

Though the 2020 election is more than 30 months away, early jockeying already is happening in states that play an outsized early role in choosing a party's nominee. Retiring Sen. Jeff Flake, R-Ariz., a persistent Trump critic, visited New Hampshire, which holds the nation's first presidential primary, last week. He told Republicans someone needs to stop Trump — and it could be him if no one steps up.



ERIC RISBERG/AP

Benjamin Lin holds up a fur coat at the B.B. Hawk showroom in San Francisco on Friday. San Francisco is considering a ban on fur sales.

## San Francisco could become largest US city to ban fur sales

BY JANIE HAR  
Associated Press

coats and anything else featuring real fur, including key chains and gloves.

"I hope that it inspires other cities and the country to take action. Certainly we need better federal regulations on fur farming," said Katy Tang, the supervisor pushing the legislation, an avid animal lover. "There's no humane way to raise an animal to peel its skin off."

About 50 clothing and accessory retailers in the downtown and South of Market shopping corridor will be affected by the legislation, said Jim Lazarus, senior vice president of public policy at the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce.

The chamber estimates San Francisco fur sales account for at least \$40 million a year. The city's Office of Economic Analysis estimated fur sales at \$11 million in 2012, based on census figures.

The proposal would allow the resale of vintage and used fur, but only by outlets not usually in the business of trading fur, such as secondhand stores, pawn shops and nonprofits. Items with fur taken from animals trapped under a state license can be sold.

If passed, the fur ban would go into effect Jan. 1 and apply to

# First lady holding her first public event on cyberbullying

BY DARLENE SUPERVILLE  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Melania Trump was set to host executives from major online and social media companies to discuss cyberbullying and internet safety, more than a year after saying that would be her issue as first lady.

The meeting Tuesday marked her first public event on the topic, a choice some observers have questioned given that her husband often berates people on Twitter.

Amazon, Snap, Facebook, Google and Twitter are among the companies that were expected to attend the meeting. The Internet



Trump

Association said it would also be represented.

All the major technology companies have strict policies prohibiting harassment and other

bullying behavior on their services, but primarily rely on users to report abuses and weed them out. They try to clearly spell out the kinds of remarks and other posts that won't be tolerated in special sections such as one Facebook, the

largest online social network, has set up. Instagram, a popular service among kids and young adults for sharing photos and videos, provides links to the U.S. government's anti-bullying site and tips from a cyberbullying research center on one of its help pages.

But the efforts have fallen short, leading to rampant abuses that even some of the companies believe have driven away or terminated portions of their audience.

It got so bad on Twitter, which has 68 million U.S. users, that the San Francisco company vowed last fall to crack down on hateful tweets. Among other things, Twitter adopted new policies aimed at pro-

tecting women who unknowingly or unwillingly had nude pictures of themselves distributed online — a common bullying tactic.

Harassment is widespread and extends beyond teenagers. A Pew Research Center poll last year found 41 percent of U.S. adults believed they had been harassed online.

The companies say they are constantly struggling to balance the desire to prevent harassment and other abuses and maintain a commitment to freedom of expression.

In some cases, they see harassment and still look the other way. For instance, some of President Donald Trump's more vitriolic

tweets have openly mocked and denigrated people, prompting calls for Twitter to shut down his account and ban him from its service. But Twitter has declined, maintaining the news value of the president's tweets, eclipse complaints about him being a bully.

There is no federal law that applies to bullying. State laws vary, ranging from requiring public schools to have a bullying policy to requiring anonymous reporting systems, said Sameer Hinduja, co-director of the Cyberbullying Research Center and professor of criminology at Florida Atlantic University.

## WORLD

# China appeals to US to 'act rationally' over trade

By JOE McDONALD  
Associated Press

BEIJING — Chinese Premier Li Keqiang appealed to Washington on Tuesday to "act rationally" and avoid disrupting trade over steel, technology and other disputes. He promised Beijing will "open even wider" to imports and investment.

"No one will emerge a winner from a trade war," Li, the No. 2 Chinese leader, said at an annual news conference during the meeting of China's ceremonial legislature.

Li made no mention of a possible Chinese response if President Donald Trump raises import

barriers over trade complaints against Beijing. But other officials say President Xi Jinping's government is ready to act.

Trump is expected to announce tariff increases as early as this week on billions of dollars of Chinese goods from clothing to electronics despite warnings by U.S. business groups that might hurt American companies and consumers. It has prompted fears Beijing might retaliate by cutting Chinese purchases of American jetliners, soybeans and other goods.

"What we hope is for us to act rationally rather than being led by emotions," said Li. "We don't want to see a trade war."

Commerce Minister Zhong Shan said on March 11 that China will

"resolutely defend" its interests. Asked whether Beijing might use its large holdings of U.S. government debt as leverage, the premier said its investments are based on market principles and "China will remain a responsible long-term investor."

China and the United States have one of the biggest global trading relationships, but the flow has lapsed. Americans buy Chinese goods worth \$3 for every \$1 of goods they sell to China.

Beijing reported a trade surplus of \$275.8 billion with the United States last year, or two-thirds of its global total. Washington reported different figures that put the gap at a record \$375.2 billion.

Li promised more market opening and other reforms as Xi's government tries to make its cooling, state-dominated economy more productive. He said Beijing will make it easier to start a business and will open more industries to foreign and private competition.

The ruling Communist Party promised in 2013 to give a bigger role to market forces and entrepreneurs who generate most of China's new jobs and wealth.

Reform advocates complain they are moving too slowly but hope Xi, who took power in 2012, might accelerate changes after focusing during his first five-year term as party leader on cementing his status as China's most

dominant figure since at least the 1980s.

"If there is one thing that will be different from the past, that will be that China will open even wider," said Li.

Beijing plans to "further bring down overall tariffs," with "zero tariffs for drugs, especially much-needed anti-cancer drugs," the premier said.

Li repeated a promise he made March 5 at the opening of the legislature to "fully open the manufacturing sector" to foreign competitors. "There will be no mandatory requirement for technology transfers, and intellectual property rights will be better protected," the premier said.

## Japanese cult members could be hanged any day for subway attack

By MARI YAMAGUCHI  
Associated Press

TOKYO — Thirteen Japanese cult members may be sent to the gallows any day now for a deadly 1995 gas attack on the Tokyo subway system and other crimes. But when is uncertain. Such is the secrecy that surrounds Japan's death penalty system.

Tuesday marked 23 years since members of the Aum Shinrikyo cult punctured plastic bags to release sarin nerve gas inside subway cars, killing 13 people and sickening thousands. Cult leader Shoko Asahara and a dozen followers were sentenced to death

for that and other crimes that killed 27 in all. Their sentences date back as far as 20 years.

Tuesday at 8 a.m. — around the time of the attack — uniformed subway employees lowered their heads in silence at Kasumigaseki Station, a main target of the cult. Shizue Takahashi, 72, the widow of an assistant stationmaster who died in the attack, and the current stationmaster placed flowers on a temporary altar set up for offerings.

"It seems the (legal) process has entered a next stage," Takahashi told reporters. "I hope [executions] are carried out in accordance with the law."

The relocation of seven of the cult members to five detention centers outside Tokyo last week has sparked speculation that executions could be imminent. In Japan, accomplices in a crime are customarily hanged on the same day.

Ten of those on death row were convicted for the subway attack, a number beyond the Tokyo detention center's daily capacity.

As with all executions in Japan, when and where they will be killed isn't being released, even to family members and lawyers. The executions won't be announced until they have already happened.



Multiple push buttons for executioners to activate a trapdoor are seen on the wall at the Tokyo Detention Center.

## World's last male of rhino species dies

By TOM ODULIA  
Associated Press

NAIROBI, Kenya — The world's last male northern white rhino, Sudan, has died after "age-related complications," researchers announced Tuesday, saying he "stole the heart of many with his dignity and strength."

A statement from the Ol Pejeta Conservancy in Kenya said the rhino, 45, was euthanized Monday after his condition "worsened significantly" and he was no longer able to stand. His muscles and bones had degenerated, and his skin had extensive wounds, with a deep infection on his back right leg.

Euthanasia was "the best option, given the quality of his life had deteriorated to a point where it was unfair to him," chief conservation officer Samuel Mutisya told The Associated Press.

The rhino had been part of an ambitious effort to save the subspecies from extinction after de-



JOE MWIHIA/AP

Wildlife ranger Zachariah Mutai poses for a photo with Sudan, who was the world's last male northern white rhino, at the Ol Pejeta Conservancy in Kenya last July.

cades of decimation by poachers, with the help of the two surviving females. One is his daughter, Najin, and the other is her daughter, Fatu.

His death won't have an impact on the efforts to save the subspecies, as the focus turns to in vitro fertilization techniques using stored semen from other dead rhinos and eggs extracted from the two remaining females.

He was a great ambassador for his species and will be re-

membered for the work he did to raise awareness globally of the plight facing not only rhinos but also the many thousands of other species facing extinction as a result of unsustainable human activity," said conservancy CEO Richard Vigne.

Sudan was something of a celebrity, attracting thousands of visitors. Last year, he was listed as "The Most Eligible Bachelor in the World" on the Tinder dating app in a fundraising effort.

## ICC: Philippines' withdrawal won't derail preliminary probe

By MIKE CORDER  
Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands —

The Philippines' decision to leave the International Criminal Court will not derail an ongoing preliminary probe into possible crimes committed during Manila's war on drugs, the court said Tuesday in its first reaction to the Asian nation's withdrawal.

Last month, ICC prosecutor Fatou Bensouda opened a preliminary examination into a complaint by a Filipino lawyer or suspected extrajudicial killings during President Rodrigo Duterte's anti-drug campaign, which could amount to crimes against humanity.

In response, Duterte announced last week that he was withdrawing the Philippine ratification of the Rome Statute, the treaty which created the ICC. Such a withdrawal goes into effect after a year.

Although the Philippine Senate ratified the Rome Statute, Duterte said the treaty was never enforced in the country because

it was not published in the government journal as required by law.

The court said in a statement it regretted Duterte's move but stressed it would not affect Bensouda's preliminary examination.

It cited a decision in another case which said that the ICC retains jurisdiction over crimes committed during the time a country is an ICC member even after withdrawal.

More than 4,000 mostly poor drug suspects have been killed under Duterte's drug crackdown, according to the national police. Human rights groups have reported higher death tolls.

Duterte argues that the killings do not amount to crimes against humanity, genocide or similar atrocities.

Bensouda's preliminary examination will assess whether there is enough evidence to open a full-scale investigation in the Philippines that could lead to charges against those deemed most responsible for crimes.

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## IHOP worker punched in face by customer

**RI** PROVIDENCE — Police are investigating after a worker at a Rhode Island IHOP restaurant was punched in the face by a customer who had been asked to leave.

The Providence Journal reported that the 23-year-old male employee was taken to the hospital after the attack about 1 a.m. Sunday.

Police said three men brought alcohol into the restaurant and were asked to remove from their table. That started an argument, which led to threats and the three men being asked to leave.

## More than 100 people held in cockfighting raid

**AR** DE QUEEN — Authorities said more than 100 people were taken into custody when dozens of law enforcement officers raided a suspected cockfighting operation in southwest Arkansas.

The bust happened in Sevier County north of De Queen, about 125 miles southwest of Little Rock. Sevier County Sheriff Robert Gentry said authorities were tipped off that a cockfight would be held at that location.

Authorities said more than 200 live birds were seized in the raid.

## Wayward horses bring traffic to standstill

**GA** TUCKER — Several horses traveled down a highway in Georgia and motorists had to hold their horses.

News outlets reported that 10 horses took to the streets and ended up blocking traffic on Highway 78 near North DeKalb Mall on Saturday.

Motorists came to a standstill as police blocked off traffic to ensure the safety of the motorists and the horses.

Little Creek Horse Farm confirmed in a Saturday Facebook post that it was their horses on the highway.

## Couple have rare identical triplets

**WV** HUNTINGTON — A West Virginia doctor said a couple's three newborn daughters are "exceedingly rare" because they are identical triplets.

The girls were born Feb. 23 at Cabell Huntington Hospital to Alex and Brianna Walls, of Kenova. The triplets are named Kenadie, Faith, Teagen, Grace and Raelynn Hope. They have an older brother and sister — Addison, 4, and Barrett, 4.

Dr. Cynthia Massey at Cabell Huntington said the chances of having identical triplets are about 1 in 200,000.

## Basement barbecue sickens partygoers

**NY** MASTIC — Police on Long Island said dozens of partygoers attending a basement barbecue suffered carbon monoxide poisoning.

## THE CENSUS

# 286

**The number of rabbits taken from a property in Sacramento, Calif.** Folsom Police Department Det. Donald Rowberry said officers were responding to a separate call when they looked over a fence and spotted about 100 rabbits. The officers called for backup and found many more bunnies hopping in unsanitary living conditions. The Sacramento SPCA received 286 rabbits from the home on Friday. KTXL-TV reported the bunnies are not available for adoption because they are part of an investigation.



JOHN MINCHILLO/AP

## Watching the story unfold

Figures scroll across seven screens against an animated landscape as visitors watch an exhibition of South African artist William Kentridge's "More Sweetly Play The Dance" at the Cincinnati Art Museum on Sunday. The film panorama is making its North American debut at the museum and plays the artist's charcoal drawings accompanied by music and depicts various, often macabre, storylines over 14 minutes.

## 2 charged with stealing vases from cemetery

**DE** WILMINGTON — Two people are accused of stealing memorial vases from a Delaware cemetery.

The News Journal reported a New Castle County grand jury indicted Alicia A. Hart, 27, and Harrison E. Hudson, 28, on charges of theft, selling stolen property, conspiracy and criminal trespass.

They're also charged with endangering the welfare of a child who was present during the thefts.

According to the indictment, Hart and Hudson are accused of stealing metals and other property valued at more than \$1,500 from Graceland Cemetery.

## Faulty fuel pump leaves ferry stranded

**MA** TIBURON — Officials say a faulty fuel pump is to blame for a ferry losing power off the coast of Martha's Vineyard, stranding 72 passengers for five hours.

The Cape Cod Times reported the ferry's fuel oil transfer pump

was not generating enough pressure to transfer oil properly. The issue caused the ferry to lose power about 15 minutes into a trip from Vineyard Haven to Woods Hole on Saturday evening.

Steamship Authority general manager Robert Davis said the ferry was cleared to return to service Monday morning.

The ferry had just gone back in service March 7 after an \$18.5 million refurbishment. Davis said the pump had not been reset during the work, and both an alarm and a pressure gauge failed to alert the crew of an issue.

## Man arrested after baby found at subway station

**NY** NEW YORK — Police said a 26-year-old man was arrested and is facing charges including abandonment of a child after a 6-month-old girl in a stroller was found unattended on a city subway platform.

Authorities said the man had been with the child and the child's mother in upper Manhattan. They separated, with the man taking the child with him.

The baby was found unharmed

on the platform at 86th Street and Lexington Avenue early Sunday morning. Police said that around the same time, the man called police to report the child missing.

## Class ring returned to family 90 years later

**MI** SUNFIELD — A class ring was returned to a Michigan family almost 90 years after it was awarded.

The Lansing State Journal reported that Gretchen Mapes received an ornate class ring from Sunfield High School in 1929. She died in 1954.

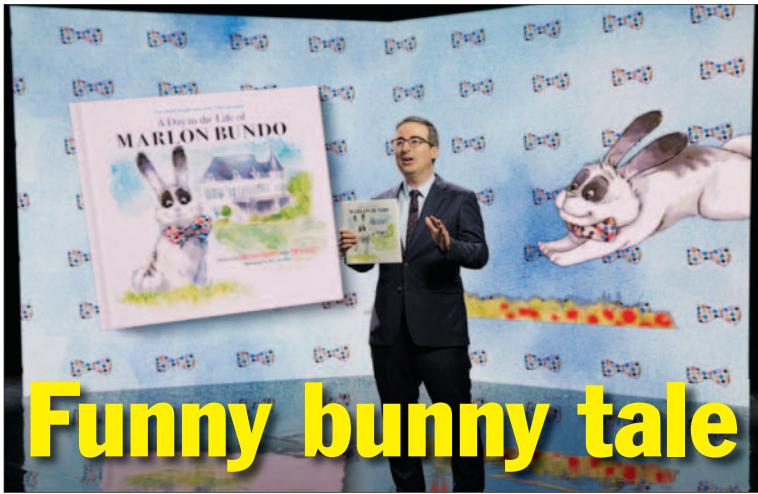
Mapes' son, Mike O'Toole, was recently given the ring.

The piece of jewelry was found half-buried in the gravel outside where the high school once stood. Vee Grimwood saw the ring glint in the sunlight as she waited for her daughter's dance class to finish in 1984.

Grimwood took the ring to the Sunfield Historical Society Welch Museum in December and eventually discovered that Mapes was the ring's original owner.

From wire reports

# FACES



# Funny bunny tale

**Twitter: 'Black Panther' is most tweeted about movie ever**

The pop culture sensation "Black Panther" has set another record: most tweeted about movie ever.

Twitter said Tuesday that Ryan Coogler's box-office smash has been tweeted about more than 35 million times. That pushes it ahead of the previous record-holder, "Star Wars: The Force Awakens." The most recent Star Wars installment, "The Last Jedi," ranks third.

Over the weekend, "Black Panther" became the first film since 2009's "Avatar" to top the box office in North America five straight weekends. It has grossed more than \$607 million domestically and \$1.2 billion worldwide. In the next week, it's expected to pass "The Avengers" as the highest grossing superhero film ever, not accounting for inflation.

Twitter said "Black Panther" had the most tweets in the U.S., followed by the United Kingdom and Thailand.

## Iggy Azalea torched Nick Young's clothes after cheating scandal

Iggy Azalea set fire to Nick Young's fancy clothes after their relationship went up in flames.

The Australian rapper admitted to torching a bunch of her former fiance's designer threads after she accused him of cheating on her.

"I burned a lot, and I threw stuff in the pool too. I started off with water and it just seemed like that didn't work," Azalea, 27, said on "Watch What Happens Live with Andy Cohen."

She contended that she was fair about it, however, because she texted Young to let him know she was burning his clothes, starting with cheaper items before progressing to the more expensive ones. To carry out the fiery revenge, Azalea says she placed Young's clothes on the fire pit at their home.

Azalea and Young — a forward for the Golden State Warriors — broke up in 2016, with the "Fancy" artist writing on Twitter that she caught Young cheating on her in their Los Angeles home by watching security footage.

## Other news

■ Former "Sex and the City" star Cynthia Nixon said on Twitter on Monday that she'll challenge Gov. Andrew Cuomo in New York's Democratic primary in September. Her announcement sets up a race pitting an openly gay liberal activist against a two-term incumbent with a \$30 million war chest and possible presidential ambitions. The 51-year-old Manhattan mother of three is an ally of Democratic New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio.

■ Broadway fans are buzzing over the release of a new song by two popular young performers in support of the upcoming "March for Our Lives." "Hamilton" creator Lin-Manuel Miranda and Ben Platt, the original star of "Dear Evan Hansen," have recorded a duet called "Found/Tonight" mixing lyrics from "You Will Be Found" from "Dear Evan Hansen" and "The Story of Tonight" from "Hamilton." The song was released at midnight Monday and is No. 1 on iTunes.

■ Police say R&B singer Troy Songz has been arrested on suspicion ofUNCHAINING a woman at a Los Angeles party. Officer Drake Madison says Songz, real name is Tremaine Nevers, turned himself in at a Hollywood police station Monday. He's accused of felony domestic violence. Jail records show the 33-year-old was released on \$50,000 bail.

■ A woman Monday said she was a 17-year-old model and aspiring actress when Steven Seagal sexually assaulted her at a supposed casting session at a Beverly Hills, Calif., hotel room in 2002. Faviola Dadis spoke at a news conference in Los Angeles, becoming the latest of several women to accuse the action star of sexual misconduct. She recently filed a report with police, and Los Angeles prosecutors said Monday that her case is under review. Seagal's attorney Anthony Falangetti said the actor adamantly denies the allegations.

■ The cake for Prince Harry and Meghan Markle's May wedding will be appropriately spring-themed. Kensington Palace said Tuesday the royal wedding cake will be a lemon elderflower concoction incorporating "the bright flavors of spring." It'll be covered with buttercream, and adorned with fresh flowers. The designated pastry chef Claire Takacs was raised in California.

John Oliver showed off a book — "Last Week Tonight with John Oliver Presents a Day in the Life of Marlon Bundo" — on the TV show "Last Week Tonight" on Sunday. It's a spoof of a picture book by the wife and daughter of Vice President Mike Pence. "There are a few small differences between the two books," Oliver said on his show. "This is a sweet story about Marlon Bundo falling in love."

## John Oliver spoofs Pence picture book about pet rabbit

Associated Press

John Oliver has trotted his way to the top.

The HBO host's spoof of a new picture book by the wife and daughter of Vice President Mike Pence was No. 1 on Amazon.com and out of stock as of midday Tuesday.

"Marlon Bundo's Day in the Life of a Vice President" is a tribute to the Pence family's beloved rabbit. It was written by the vice president's daughter, Charlotte Pence, and illustrated by his wife, Karen Pence. Oliver's book, which he

announced over the weekend, is called "Last Week Tonight with John Oliver Presents a Day in the Life of Marlon Bundo." The story is the same, almost: This Marlon Bundo has fallen for a male bunny.

"There are a few small differences between the two books," Oliver said on his show, noting Pence's opposition to gay marriage and other LGBTQ rights. "This is a sweet story about Marlon Bundo falling in love."

Published by Chronicle Books, the parody was written by "Last Week" contributor Jill Twiss and illustrated by EG

Keller. Proceeds are being donated to The Trevor Project, a suicide hotline for LGBTQ youth, and AIDS United.

It's not the only current best-seller inspired by the Trump administration. As of midday Tuesday, No. 2 on Amazon was James Comey's "A Higher Loyalty," the upcoming memoir by the FBI director fired last year by President Donald Trump. At No. 6 was "Russian Roulette," in which Michael Isikoff and David Corn investigate Trump's alleged ties to Russia.

The Pence book is a best-seller too, ranked No. 4 on Amazon.

## Jordan Klepper to gather with gun control activists

By DAVID BAUDER  
Associated Press

Comedy Central's Jordan Klepper is planning a shulmer party for young activists pushing for action on gun control.

Klepper is taking Thursday's episode of his show, "The Opposition," out of a New York studio and into the living room of a private home in the Bethesda, Md., area. That's where many young people plan to gather in preparation for Saturday's "March for Our Lives" on Washington to oppose gun violence.

"It's so nice to be inspired by people who aren't cynical about the political process, who are actually doing something," Klepper said Monday.

Klepper took a special interest in the issue even before he began hosting the weekday show last year. He had been reporting on gun control for "The Daily Show" and hosted a one-hour "investigative comedy" special last June titled "Jordan Klepper Solves Guns."

He didn't solve much, of course. But in the process of talking to people on all



Getty Images for Comedy Central

**"The Opposition with Jordan Klepper" is going on the road to a Washington D.C. suburb to talk with young gun control activists on the eve of the "March for Our Lives."**

sides of the issue, Klepper said he was surprised by how much common ground he saw on issues like background checks and scientific research. To him, it has made the lack of political action on the issue despite several mass shootings particularly frustrating.

Klepper got some attention last month for having two student survivors of the Parkland, Fla., school shooting on for interviews. "The students are doing an amazing job of keeping this conversation going and elevating this, both in the news and in people's minds, so it doesn't just go away and people in positions of power can forget about it as well," he said.

Show researchers found an organization called DC Teens Action, which is matching people coming in for the march with host families in the area. Comedy Central made arrangements with one such group to highlight for the show.

In addition to the young participants, U.S. Sen. Cory Booker, a New Jersey Democrat, will stop by.

Klepper won't be breaking character to conduct his interviews. He plays a conservative conspiracy theorist on the show.

He found that when he interviewed the Parkland students, they later appreciated Klepper going after them in this fashion, because it gave the students the chance to refute claims made against them.

From wire services

## BUSINESS/WEATHER

# How Facebook likes could fuel voter manipulation

By BARBARA ORTUTAY  
AND ANICK JESDANUN  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Facebook "likes" can tell a lot about a person. Maybe even enough to feed into a voter manipulation effort like the one a Trump-affiliated data-mining firm stands accused of — and which Facebook may have enabled.

The social network is under fire after The New York Times and The Guardian newspaper reported that former Trump campaign consultant Cambridge Analytica used data, including user likes, inappropriately obtained from roughly 50 million Facebook users to try to influence elections.

Monday was a wild roller coaster ride for Facebook, whose shares plunged 7 percent in its worst one-day decline since 2014. Officials in the European Union and the U.S. sought answers, while Britain's information commissioner said she will seek a warrant to access Cambridge Analytica's servers because the British firm had been "uncooperative" in her investigation. The first casualty of that investigation was an audit of Cambridge that Facebook had announced earlier in the day; the company said it "stood down" that effort at the request of British officials.

Adding to the turmoil, The New York Times reported that Facebook security chief Alex Stamos will step down by August following clashes over how aggressively Facebook should address its role in spreading disinformation. In a tweet, Stamos said he's still fully engaged at Facebook but that his role has changed.

It would have been quieter had Facebook not turned out to be so revealing. Researchers in a 2013 study found that likes on hobbies, interests and other attri-

**'This is based on an idea called 'informational dominance,' which is the idea that if you can capture every channel of information around a person and then inject content around them, you can change their perception of what's actually happening.'**

Chris Wylie

Cambridge Analytica co-founder

butes can predict personal attributes such as sexual orientation and political affiliation. Computers analyze such data to look for patterns that might not be obvious, such as a link between a preference for curly fries and higher intelligence.

Chris Wylie, a Cambridge co-founder who left in 2014, said the firm used such techniques to learn about individuals and create an information cocoon to change their perceptions. In doing so, he said, the firm "took fake news to the next level."

"This is based on an idea called 'informational dominance,' which is the idea that if you can capture every channel of information around a person and then inject content around them, you can change their perception of what's actually happening," Wylie said Monday on NBC's "Today." It's not yet clear exactly how the firm might have attempted to do that.

Late Friday, Facebook said Cambridge improperly obtained information from 270,000 people who downloaded an app described as a personality test. Those people agreed to share data with the app for research — not for political targeting. And the data included who their Facebook friends were and what they liked — even though those friends hadn't downloaded the app or given explicit consent.

Cambridge got limited information on the friends, but machines

can use detailed answers from smaller groups to make good inferences on the rest, said Kenneth Sanford, of the data science company Datakit.

Cambridge was backed by the conservative billionaire Richard Mercer, and at one point employed Stephen Bannon — later President Donald Trump's campaign chairman and White House adviser — as a vice president. The Trump campaign paid Cambridge roughly \$6 million according to federal election records, although officials have more recently played down that work.

The type of data mining reportedly used by Cambridge Analytica is fairly common, but is typically used to sell diapers and other products. Netflix, for instance, provides individualized recommendations based on how a person's viewing behaviors fit with what other customers watch.

But that common technique can take on a ominous cast if it's connected to possible elections meddling, said Robert Ricci, a marketing director at Blue Fountain Media.

Wylie said Cambridge Analytica aimed to "explore mental vulnerabilities of people." He said the firm "works on creating a web of disinformation online so people start going down the rabbit hole of clicking on blogs, websites etc. that make them think things are happening that may not be."

Wylie told "Today" that while political ads are also targeted at specific voters, the Cambridge effort aimed to make sure people wouldn't know they were getting messages aimed at influencing their views.

The Trump campaign has depended using Cambridge's data. The firm itself denies wrongdoing, and said it didn't retain any of the data pulled from Facebook and didn't use it in its 2016 campaign work.

Yet Cambridge boasted of its work after another client, Texas Republican Sen. Ted Cruz, won the Iowa caucus in 2016.

Cambridge helped differentiate Cruz from similarly minded Republican rivals by identifying automated red light cameras as an issue of importance to residents upset with government intrusion. Potential voters living near the red light cameras were sent di-

rect messages saying Cruz was against their use.

It's possible that Cambridge tapped other data sources, including what Cruz's campaign app collected. Cambridge CEO Alexander Nix said during the Cruz campaign that it had five or six sources of data on each voter.

Facebook declined to provide officials for interview and didn't immediately respond to requests for information beyond its statements Friday and Monday. Cambridge also didn't immediately respond to emailed questions.

## EXCHANGE RATES

	Military rates	Commercial rates
Euro costs (March 21)	\$1.2629	\$1.2629
Dollar buys (March 21)	0.70918	0.70918
British pound	1.44	1.44
Chinese yuan (March 21)	0.103.00	0.103.00
Japanese yen (March 21)	1.043.00	1.043.00
Polish zloty (March 21)	0.251.00	0.251.00
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771	0.3771
British pound	1.3988	1.3988
Chinese yuan (March 21)	6.3333	6.3333
Denmark (Krone)	6.0705	6.0705
Egypt (Pound)	17.8595	17.8595
French franc (March 21)	1.2270	1.2270
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.8444	7.8444
Hungary (Forint)	251.00	251.00
Israel (Shekel)	347.90	347.90
Japan (Yen)	106.43	106.43
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3511	0.3511
Lithuania (Litas)	17.746	17.746
Philippines (Peso)	52.11	52.11
Poland (Zloty)	3.46	3.46
Portugal (Euro)	3.9262	3.9262
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3180	1.3180
South Korean (Won)	1,113.35	1,113.35
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9552	0.9552
Thailand (Bath)	31.20	31.20
Turkey (New Lira)	3.9287	3.9287

Commercial rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance. Noncommercial rates are for the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., rates for currencies not in your country), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates. Noncommercial rates are buying currency. All figures are for foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.

## INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	4.50
Discount rate	2.00
Federal funds market rate	1.42
3-month bill	1.78
30-year bond	3.09

## WEATHER OUTLOOK

### WEDNESDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



### WEDNESDAY IN EUROPE



### THURSDAY IN THE PACIFIC



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

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The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market



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Tobias Naegele

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BY MEGAN MCARDLE

*The Washington Post*

**S**elf-driving cars have claimed their first pedestrian fatality: a woman in Tempe, Ariz., who was struck and killed by an Uber vehicle traveling in autonomous mode. weren't self-driving cars supposed to be safer than those piloted by fallible humans?

And who says they aren't? As many on social media rushed to point out, more than 37,000 people were killed by human-piloted vehicles in 2016. Compared with that, one pedestrian fatality, however sad, looks pretty good.

This argument is appealing. Unfortunately, it's wrong.

Motor vehicle fatalities are measured in terms of "vehicle miles traveled," which is just what it sounds like. In 2016, there were 1.18 fatalities for every 100 million miles that Americans drove. Since Americans drove nearly 3.2 trillion miles that year, that still added up to tens of thousands of deaths.

To know whether self-driving cars are safer than the traditional kind, you'd have to know how many miles they traveled before incurring this first fatality. And the answer is "fewer than 100 million" — a lot fewer. Waymo, the industry leader, recently reported logging its 4 millionth mile of road travel, with much of that in Western states that offer unusually favorable driving conditions. Uber just reached 2 million miles with its autonomous program. Other companies are working on fully autonomous systems, but adding them all together couldn't get us anywhere close to 100 million. (The numbers go up if you add Tesla's autopilot, but that system has more limited capabilities, and fatality statistics don't necessarily get any clearer — or more favorable — if you do.)

One fatality at these numbers of road-miles driven does not suggest, to put it mildly, a safety improvement over humans. It's more like dramatic step backward, or if

**We won't know how dangerous self-driving cars are compared with human drivers until they've driven billions more miles.**

you like, a high-speed reverse.

Which is not to say that we should pull the plug on autonomous driving. For one thing, regular old-fashioned cars were *more* too safe when they first arrived on American roads. In 1921, the first year for which such data is available, there were 24 deaths for every 100 million vehicle miles traveled. Over time, improved cars, drivers and roads reduced that figure by nearly 95 percent. Presumably, self-driving cars can also improve.

Given their other benefits, it's worth working for those improvements, regardless of whether these cars are currently less safe than human drivers. Think of all the elderly forced to leave their homes when they can no longer drive, the people whose disabilities make it hard or impossible for them to operate a car, the barroom drunks who get behind the wheel because there's no easy way to get home. Autonomous vehicles promise to solve these major problems; we should pursue that promise, even at the temporary cost of some road safety now.

Especially since it's not clear that there is actually a cost in road safety. The glib insistence that self-driving cars are safer than human drivers is not well-founded — but neither is a counterargument that insists that they're obviously much more dangerous.

Even if you could design a system that you knew would have one fatal accident every 100 million miles on average (roughly the same as a human driver), that wouldn't mean that the car would strike and kill someone just as the odometer hit

100 million. The accident might occur on mile 5 million, or mile 99 million — or heck, you might get lucky and not have a fatality until mile 115 million. It's not possible to confidently assess the risk of an accident based on a single event like this. Statistical regularities that are apparent in large data pools get lost in the noise when the sample is too small.

We won't know how dangerous self-driving cars are compared with human drivers until they've driven billions more miles. At the moment, we just know that they can kill people, not how often they will. And that's a possibility that advocates for self-driving cars should have prepared the public for better than they have.

Enthusiasts for autonomous vehicles have been a little too quick to respond to safety concerns by pointing out how many accidents human drivers have — or by noting that self-driving cars don't text or drive drunk, or fall asleep at the wheel. All true, but as they drive more and more miles, we may discover that they have problems humans don't.

Uber has already pulled its autonomous cars off the road in response to this tragedy. If it hadn't, it seems likely that the public pressure to do so would have been deafening. The company — and advocates of autonomous vehicles more generally — will need to put in a lot of work over the next few months restoring public faith in this technology.

Luckily, software systems can be re-engineered; even if self-driving cars aren't currently safer than a human driver, there's good reason to expect that one day they will be. But we've done that future no service by talking as if it had definitely already arrived. If we tell people that self-driving cars are perfectly safe, and that turns out not to be true, the backlash could drive these vehicles off the road before they're able to deliver on their promise.

Megan McArdle, a Washington Post opinions columnist, is a former columnist for Bloomberg View and author of *"The Up Side of Down: Why Failing Well Is the Key to Success."*

## Arming schoolteachers: A personal perspective

BY JOHN M. CRISP

*Tribune News Service*

**I** had been thinking about the idea of arming classroom teachers well before President Donald Trump suggested the measure as a response to the murders of 17 students and teachers at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., last month.

In fact, last fall it became personal. My home state, Texas, legalized concealed handgun carry on all public college campuses, meaning that the formerly gun-free classrooms in which I had labored for the preceding 29 years may now be populated by concealed carriers, including teachers.

I wasn't enthusiastic about this notion, and when the legislation was under development several years ago, neither were the Austin police chief, a number of state law enforcement agencies and the administration at the University of Texas at Austin.

The chancellor of the UT system, former Navy SEAL William McRaven, pushed back hard, arguing that the presence of more guns on public campuses would actually make them "less safe." His chief concern was that whatever righteous use — by students or teachers — might be made of weapons on campus would be outweighed by the increased accidents and suicides that often accompany ready access to guns.

I shared some of these same objections,

but I was just as concerned about the cultural "normalizing" that concealed carry on campus would imply. Have we truly reached the point in our society where you have to carry a gun in order to be safe? And, besides, what dampening effect might the presence of guns in the classroom — concealed or not — have on the sort of free expression that colleges exist to encourage?

But when I expressed these misgivings in writing, I invariably heard from readers who argued, often passionately, "Well, if you had been at Virginia Tech, wouldn't you have wanted to have a gun when the shooting started?"

Or at Columbine? Or Sandy Hook? Or, now, Parkland?

The readers' points are well taken. In the case of a shooter, indeed, I would want to have a gun. And since our culture has been extraordinarily ineffective in dealing with our unique brand of American gun violence, I wondered whether I had any responsibility to protect not only myself but my students, as well.

So maybe I should have dusted off the .357 magnum that's resided in my desk drawer, unfired, for more than a couple of decades and carried it into the classroom.

I'm not a great fan of guns, but I'm not afraid of them or intimidated by them. My family goes back at least five generations in Texas, and even though I don't come from a long line of enthusiastic hunters, this being Texas, I had an occasional chance to plink

targets with a .22 when I was a kid.

In the Navy we practiced firing a couple of clips from a .45. I went dove hunting once; one shot, one dove. And once I killed a young buck with a clean, early morning shot from a couple of hundred yards, it was delicious.

So maybe I was the kind of teacher that Trump had in mind when he called for arming teachers after Parkland.

But I suspect that arming teachers will merely give us a false sense of having taken some action without really doing anything effective to solve the problem of school shootings.

Trump, better known for impulse than careful, analytical thinking, readily accepts the NRA's mantra: "The only way to stop a bad guy with a gun is with a good guy with a gun." (He also accepted \$30 million from them.)

But there are guns, and then there are guns. My .357 magnum is a powerful weapon. But it's a five-round revolver, not even close to a match to the semiautomatic, high-capacity-magazine AR-15 that Nikolas Cruz used to take 17 lives in Parkland. And, in fact, no weapon that can be concealed will put a teacher on anything close to even terms with a determined shooter.

Of course, it's something, at least. But it's not the answer. And we shouldn't let Trump or the NRA convince us that it is.

John M. Crisp, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, lives in Georgetown, Texas.

## OPINION

## Facebook needs to come clean about '16. Now

BY HELAINE OLEN  
Special To The Washington Post

Over the weekend, The New York Times and The Observer of London posted a blockbuster investigative piece revealing that Cambridge Analytica, the firm brought on by the Trump campaign to target voters online, used the data of tens of millions of people obtained from Facebook without prior disclosures or permission.

In the wake of this report, it's more than past time for Mark Zuckerberg to testify to Congress about Facebook's role in the 2016 election and why he believes existing privacy laws are adequate to protect Americans from misuse and abuse of technology platforms.

And I mean Mark Zuckerberg. Not a Facebook lawyer, like the company sent to Congress last year for hearings held on fake news swamped tech platforms like, oh, Facebook. As Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar tweeted:

"Facebook breach: This is a major breach that must be investigated. It's clear these platforms can't police themselves. I've called for more transparency & accountability for political ads. They say 'trust us.' Mark Zuckerberg needs to testify before Senate Judiciary."

The investigation published by The Times revealed that Cambridge Analytica, after receiving \$15 million from conservative donor Robert Mercer in 2014 to microtarget voters, obtained the information to do so in a questionable way. A British professor collected the information from Facebook, saying he was conducting an academic personality study. He did get the approval of about 270,000 people who signed up to take part in the study — they were told their information would be used. He did not, however, get the permission of the users' friends, whose information was also gathered — an estimated 50 million people.

It's not just that such an action is unethical.

cal. It might well be a violation of an agreement Facebook made with the federal government. Two former employees of the Federal Trade Commission have now told The Washington Post that it's quite possible that Facebook violated a 2011 agreement with the agency to notify and offer users an out when there is an effort to use their personal information in a way not in line with their privacy settings. This agreement was reached after consumer groups complained that Facebook was cavalier with personal information.

So back to Cambridge Analytica. When Facebook found out, courtesy of a 2015 piece in the Guardian, that Cambridge Analytica and British academics had information on many users that agreed to such a collection, it demanded the information be destroyed. That did not happen. Facebook cited that when presented with the latest revelations by The Times, claiming that the companies that misused the data "certified to us that they destroyed the data in question."

(On Monday afternoon, Facebook announced that Cambridge Analytica agreed to a digital audit to prove they destroyed the disputed materials. The British professors involved in using the data also agreed to an audit.)

And so, after The Times published its piece, Facebook didn't own up to what happened. Instead, Facebook executives have gotten into multiple spats with reporters and others over whether the Cambridge Analytica incident is a "breach" or a mere misuse of personal information, since some (but not all) the people whose data was involved did give permission for their data to be taken and the company was not actually hacked. Facebook's motive for this is almost certainly legal and regulatory. As Bloomberg notes, a "breach" is a specific term that requires the company to notify users their information was illegally accessed.

But there is quite possibly a bigger motive. Painting Cambridge Analytica as the

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villain is an attempt to get Facebook off the hook for its ongoing role in everything from other invasions of privacy (more about that in a moment) to the ongoing complaints about its role in spreading fake news in the 2016 election. If one or two rogue companies such as Cambridge Analytica — and not Facebook — are responsible for this mass misuse of data, perhaps the company can say more regulation is not needed.

But don't fall for the idea that Facebook is not the problem. This is hardly a first-time offense for Facebook, which — a reminder — allowed fake news to flood many users' news feeds in the months leading up to the 2016 elections.

In fact, Washington perhaps should have gotten interested in Facebook well before the Trump election contretemps. Over time, Facebook has indulged in numerous instances of dodgy behavior. There was the time Facebook altered news feeds to study whether they could affect the mood of people on the platform. There was the reveal that its platform permitted ad buyers to target people with such delightful terms as "jew hater." And the discovery that Facebook made it possible to target housing ads to whites only.

Whether this latest scandal was a breach or a misuse of information is irrelevant. It was wrong. Zuckerberg needs to explain — slowly and clearly and without legal terminology or whiny excuses — what went wrong at the company he founded in his Harvard dorm room, what steps the company is taking to make sure it never happens again. My suspicion? He can't do that. Instead, a Zuckerberg appearance will demonstrate the need for significant federal regulation of the large technology platforms. No wonder it hasn't happened yet.

Helaine Olen is a contributor to The Washington Post's Plum Line blog and the author of "Pound Foolish: Exposing the Dark Side of the Personal Finance Industry." She serves on the advisory board of the Economic Hardship Reporting Project.

## Cambridge Analytica is a red herring in Facebook mess

BY LEONID BERSHIDSKY  
Bloomberg View

**F**acebook is being hammered for allowing the data firm Cambridge Analytica to acquire \$5 million user profiles in the U.S., which it may or may not have used to help the Trump campaign. But the outrage misses the target. There's nothing Cambridge Analytica could have done that Facebook itself doesn't offer political clients.

Here, in a nutshell, is the CA scandal. In 2014, Aleksandr Kogan, an academic of Russian origin at Cambridge University in Britain, built a Facebook app that paid hundreds of thousands of users to take a psychological test. Apart from their test results, the users also shared the data of their Facebook friends with the app. Kogan sold the resulting database to CA, which Facebook considers a violation of its policies. The app was not allowed to use the data for commercial purposes. Carol Cadwalladr and Emma Graham-Harrison, writing for the U.K. publication Observer, quoted former CA employee Christopher Wylie as saying the firm "broke Facebook" on behalf of Steve Bannon, the ideologue and manager behind the Trump campaign.

It didn't escape keen observers that if the Trump campaign used Facebook user data harvested through an app, it did no more than Barack Obama's 2012 data-heavy re-election campaign. It's not documented exactly how Obama's team gathered oodles of data on potential supporters, but a deep dive into the tech side of that a campaign

### There's nothing Cambridge Analytica could have done that Facebook itself doesn't offer political clients.

by Sasha Issenberg mentioned how "targeted sharing" protocols mined an Obama backer's Facebook network in search of friends the campaign wanted to register, mobilize or persuade. To do this, the protocols would need to use the same feature of the Facebook platform for developers, discontinued in 2015, that allowed apps access to a user's friends' profiles — with the user's consent, as Facebook invariably points out.

Let's face it: Users are routinely tricked to obtain such consent. Tech companies make giving it, or agreeing to complex terms of service, look like a low-engagement decision. "Is it OK if we look at your friends' info?" they ask.

"Sure, why not? I want to take this nifty psychological test," we answer. Afterward, only Facebook itself is interested in the legal minutiae of what permissions it gave to which developers. As far as everyone else is concerned, it doesn't matter whether an app gets the data for research purposes or for straight-up political ones. Average users worry more about convenience than

## privacy.

The relevant question, however, is what a campaign can actually do with the data. CA's supposedly sinister skill is that it can use the Facebook profile information to build psychological profiles that reveal a person's propensity to vote for a certain party or candidate. When matched against electoral registers, targeted appeals are possible.

But no one should take the psychological profile stuff at face value. No academic work exists to link personality traits, especially those gleaned from the sketchy and often false information on Facebook profiles, definitively to political choices. There is, however, research showing that values or even genetic factors trump traits. It's not even clear how traits affect political behavior, such as the tendency to vote and donate to campaigns. Some researchers, for example, have found a negative relationship between emotional stability and these measures; others have found a positive one.

This is not to say Facebook data, including data on a user's friends, can't be useful to campaigns. The Obama campaign actually used its active supporters to contact six specific friends suggested by the algorithm. So people reached a million others, and, according to data from the campaign, 20 percent of the million actually did something like registering to vote.

But did the Trump campaign need CA and the data it acquired from Kogan to do this kind of outreach in 2016? Likely not.

Facebook cut off the friends functionality for app developers because it clients interested in its own offering to clients interested in microtargeting.

There's plenty of evidence that Brad Parscale, who ran the digital side of Trump's campaign, worked closely with Facebook. Using the platform's "Lookalike Audiences," he could find people who resemble known Trump supporters. Facebook also has the capacity to target ads to the friends of people who have "liked" a page — a Trump campaign page, for example.

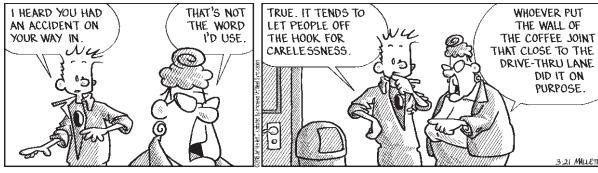
Targeting messages to millions of specific people without going directly through Facebook is messier and probably more expensive than using the social platform's own tools. All Facebook requires for access to its data store is a reasonable fee.

Whether CA could add anything meaningful to Facebook's effort is unclear. Its previous client, the unsuccessful presidential campaign of Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, has said it didn't deliver on all its promises.

Some studies have shown that Facebook ads can work quite well for businesses. If they also worked for Trump, the CA story is a red herring. It's Facebook's own data collection and the tools it makes available to clients that should be the target of scrutiny and perhaps regulation, both from a privacy perspective and for the sake of political transparency.

Leonid Bershidsky is a Bloomberg View columnist. He was a founder member of the Russian business daily Vedomosti and founded the opinion website Slon.ru.

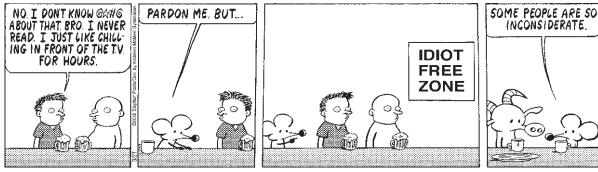
Frazz



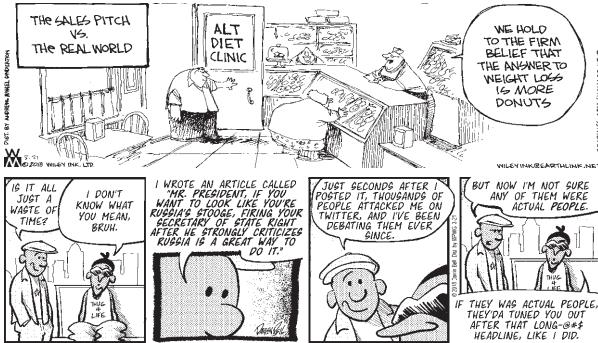
Dilbert



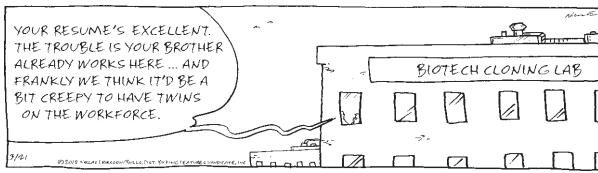
Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



Candorville



Carpe Diem

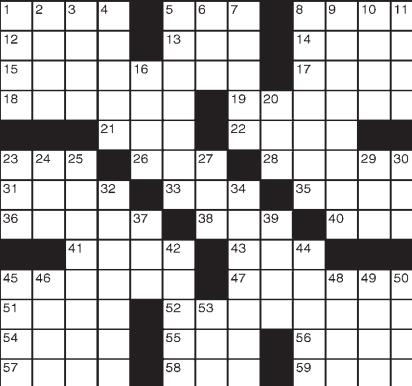


Beetle Bailey



Bizarro

## Eugene Sheffer Crossword



## ACROSS

1 Netting  
5 Sixth sense  
8 Medley  
12 Jai —  
13 Knight's address  
14 Atkins diet no-no  
15 Sport developed by Native Americans  
17 Exotic berry  
18 Crazy  
19 Tranquil  
21 Chaps  
22 Recipe direction  
23 Lass  
26 High school subj.  
28 Entrap  
31 Apple computer  
33 Days of yore  
35 Teensy bit  
36 Ness and Lomond  
38 Guitar master Paul  
40 Sch. URL ender  
41 — pro quo  
43 Having a lot to lose?  
45 Wall plaster  
47 Sports venues  
51 Timid  
52 Quality of fine lingerie  
54 British noble  
55 Snip

56 Send forth  
57 Gaelic  
58 Swelled head  
59 Throw

20 UFO crew  
23 Baseball's Hodges  
24 I love (Lat.)  
25 Glossy coatings  
27 Unwell  
29 Fishing pole  
30 Outback bird  
32 Laugh a little  
34 Actually (Lat.)  
37 Bracketed word  
39 Ganges garment  
42 Sweetly, in music  
44 Doctrine  
45 Hook's henchman  
46 Eye drop  
48 "Finding —"  
10 Persia, today  
11 Theater award  
16 Small bills

## Answer to Previous Puzzle

R	I	P	A	U	L	T	Q	U	I	P
A	R	E	S	B	U	S	R	U	G	E
T	I	C	K	T	O	C	I	S	O	N
E	S	S	R	A	Y	S	C	A	R	S
M	A	L	L	S	M	U	P	E	T	S
E	L	I	A	B	A	T	I	V	E	S
H	A	L	C	Y	O	N	S	C	E	N
N	I	N	J	A	B	A	B	A	B	S
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3-21

## CRYPTOQUIP

H V F G D L K ' I F O G U I F X O S T D

C W O T T F X J P C U I K S S O G Z

P V O G Z C U T F J G , O Z K F C C D L K

I F J T T D W G L H P V F C U L K I .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I FINALLY FOUND THE BEAUTIFUL BEDROOM BUREAU I HAD BEEN SEEKING FOR SO LONG. CHEST MY LUCK!

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals S

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Be aware of the common red flags.

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on AFN

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## College basketball

## NIT

Second Round

Saturday, March 17

Penn State 73, Notre Dame 63

Sunday, March 18

Mississippi 70, Boston 77

Marquette 101, Oregon 92

Louisville 84, Middle Tennessee 68

Monday, March 19

Oklahoma 71, Stanford 65

Utah 95, LSU 71

Saint Mary's 75, Washington 81

Western Kentucky 79, Southern Cal 75

Quaterfinals

Tuesday, March 20

Penn State (23-13) at Marquette (21-13)

Mississippi (State) 24-11 at Louisville (22-13)

Wednesday, March 21

Western Kentucky (26-10) vs. Oklahoma (21-14)

Saint Mary's (20-5) vs. Utah (21-11)

## CIT

## Second Round

Wednesday, March 14

Eastern Michigan 83, Niagara 65

UTSA 76, Florida 62

Thursday, March 15

Austin Peay 80, Louisiana-Monroe 66

Central Michigan 98, Wofford 40

Saturday, March 17

San Diego 70, Missouri 64

Sunday, March 18

Northern Colorado 81, Drake 72

Monday, March 19

Sam Houston State 69, Eastern Michigan 62

Quaterfinals

Wednesday, March 21

UC (18-15) at Austin Peay (19-14)

Northern Colorado (20-13) at San Diego (20-13)

Thursday, March 22

Sam Houston State (20-14) at UTSA

Saturday, March 24

Central Michigan (21-14) at Liberty (21-14)

## CBI

## Quaterfinals

Monday, March 19

Jacksonville State 80, Central Arkansas 59

Tuesday, March 20

Tulane 71, New Orleans 69

North Texas 96, Mercer 67

San Francisco 75, Utah Valley 73

Wednesday, March 21

Jacksonville State (23-12) vs. Campbell (18-15)

Thursday, March 22

North Texas (17-17) vs. San Francisco (20-15)

Friday, March 23

Saturday, March 24

Sunday, March 25

Monday, March 26

Tuesday, March 27

Wednesday, March 28

Thursday, March 29

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## NHL

## Scoreboard

## Eastern Conference

	GP	W	L	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	72	41	30	9	142	250
Boston	75	45	17	9	93	194
Toronto	72	43	22	7	93	243
Washington	75	44	21	8	93	229
Pittsburgh	75	41	26	5	87	257
Columbus	73	40	28	4	85	203
Philadelphia	73	37	37	1	82	219
New Jersey	72	26	35	11	63	184
Florida	70	36	27	7	79	212
Carolina	72	31	30	11	73	194
N.Y. Rangers	72	32	32	8	72	208
N.Y. Islanders	72	39	32	5	70	231
Montreal	72	36	36	6	69	189
Ottawa	71	26	34	11	63	197
Detroit	72	26	35	11	63	184
Buffalo	72	23	37	2	58	152

## Western Conference

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Nashville	72	48	21	5	105	236	198
Vegas	72	45	26	1	91	196	225
Winnipeg	72	43	19	10	96	240	189
Minnesota	73	40	24	8	90	227	210
San Jose	72	40	24	8	89	218	212
Colorado	73	39	25	8	86	231	209
Los Angeles	72	39	27	6	86	211	184
Anaheim	73	37	24	2	86	206	197

**Note:** Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference qualify for the playoffs.

**Monday's games**

Columbus 5, Boston 4, OT  
Nashville 4, Florida 2  
Florida 2, Montreal 0  
Los Angeles 4, Minnesota 3, OT  
Arizona 5, San Jose 2

## Tuesday's games

Colombus at N.Y. Rangers  
Dallas at Florida  
Pittsburgh at N.Y. Islanders  
Edmonton at Carolina  
Phoenix at Arizona  
Philadelphia at Detroit  
Toronto at Tampa Bay  
Los Angeles at Colorado  
Vancouver at Chicago  
Vancouver at Vegas  
New Jersey at St. Louis

## Wednesday's games

Montreal at Pittsburgh  
Arizona at Philadelphia  
Arizona at Carolina  
Florida at Tampa Bay  
Tampa Bay at N.Y. Islanders  
Washington at Detroit  
Edmonton at Ottawa  
Toronto at New Jersey  
Vancouver at Chicago  
Los Angeles at Colorado  
Vegas at San Jose

## Monday

## Panthers 2, Canadiens 0

Florida 1, 0  
Montreal 1, 0  
First Period—1, Florida, Eklblad 15.

Third Period—2, Florida, Barkov 26 (Perry, Binnington) 30-18.

**Shots on Goal:** Florida, 19-12-40.

Montreal 7-9-12-28.

**Power-play opportunities:** Florida 0 of 2; Montreal 0 of 5.

**Goalies:** Florida, Luongo, 15-9-2, (28 saves). Montreal, Niemi, 5-8-4 (40-38).

A—21,302 (21,288). T—2:31.

**Florida** 1, 0  
**Montreal** 1, 0  
**First Period—**1, Florida, Eklblad 15.

Third Period—2, Florida, Barkov 26 (Perry, Binnington) 30-18.

**Shots on Goal:** Florida, 19-12-40.

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**Power-play opportunities:** Florida 0 of 2; Montreal 0 of 5.

**Goalies:** Florida, Luongo, 15-9-2, (28 saves). Montreal, Niemi, 5-8-4 (40-38).

A—21,302 (21,288). T—2:31.



The Wild's Mikko Koivu, right, scuffles with the Los Angeles Kings' Anze Kopitar during Monday's game in St. Paul, Minn.

## Predators 4, Sabres 0

Nashville 0, 2, 2-4  
Buffalo 0, 2, 2-4  
**Second Period—**1, Nashville, Fisher 2 (Hartnell, Salomaki), 12:29. 2, Nashville, Johansen 12 (Arvidsson, Forsberg), 17:03.  
**Third Period—**3, Nashville, Forsberg 21 (Hartnell, Tavares), 16:09. 4, Nashville, Hartman 11 (Sissons, Melvin), 19:36.  
**Shots on Goal:** Nashville 10-11-11-32. Buffalo 10-11-11-32.  
**Power-play opportunities:** Nashville 0 of 0; Buffalo 0 of 0.  
**Goalies:** Nashville, Rinne 40-9-4 (35 shots-35 saves). Buffalo, Ulmark 1-1-0 (32-28).  
A—17,507 (19,070). T—2:23.

## Blue Jackets 5, Bruins 4 (OT)

Columbus 1, 3, 1 1-0-4  
Boston 1, 3 1 0-4-0  
**First Period—**1, Columbus, Jokinen 11 (Vanek), 4:15.

**Second Period—**2, Boston, Donato (Krejci, Heinen), 5:07. 3, Boston, Marchand and 31 (Miller, Pastrnak), 8:44. 4, Boston, Nash 15 (Donato, Marchand), 16:32 (pp). 5, Boston, Pastrnak 16 (Marchand, Donato), 17:12 (pp). 6, Columbus, Vanek 16 (Vanek, Ray), 16:57.

**Third Period—**5, Columbus, Vanek, 20 (Jokinen, Nittawarach), 5:38. 6, Columbus, Panarin 22 (Foligno), 11:30. 8, Boston, Krejci 17 (Heinen, Donato), 11:50.

**Overtime—**7, Boston, Pastrnak 17 (Wenberg, Murray), 2:55.  
**Shots on Goal:** Columbus 5-10-7-3-2-5. Boston 14-14-14-14-14-14.

**Power-play opportunities:** Columbus 0 of 2; Boston 0 of 2.  
**Goalies:** Columbus, Korpisalo 8-7-0 (38 shots-34 saves). Boston, Rask 30-11-5 (25-20).  
A—17,565 (17,565). T—2:36.

## Kings 4, Wild 3 (OT)

Los Angeles 1, 2, 1 1-4  
Minnesota 1, 2 1 0-3-3  
**First Period—**1, Los Angeles, Peacock 15 (Doughty, Brown), 18:47.

**Second Period—**2, Los Angeles, Carter 7 (Doughty, Brown), 1:42. 3, Los Angeles, Miller 10 (Doughty, Brown), 1:45. 4, Minnesota, Parise 9 (Murphy, Niedreiter), 12:08. 4, Minnesota, Staal 39 (Suter), Dubois, 12:45.

**Third Period—**5, Minnesota, Eriksson 4 (Coyote, Zucker), 17:26. 6, Los Angeles, Carter 22 (Doughty, Brown), 18:45.

**Overtime—**7, Los Angeles, Carter 8 (Kopitar, Quick), 4:28.  
**Shots on Goal:** Los Angeles 9-8-11-2-10-2-10. Minnesota 9-11-7-7-27.

**Power-play opportunities:** Los Angeles 0 of 1; Minnesota 0 of 1.  
**Goalies:** Los Angeles, Quick 29-26-2 (27 shots-26 saves). Minnesota, Dubnyk 31-31 (30-26).

A—19,081 (18,064). T—2:36.

## Coyotes 5, Flames 2

Calgary 0, 2 0-3-2  
Arizona 0, 2 0-3-2  
**Second Period—**1, Arizona, Panik 9 (Krejci, Stepan), 5:15. 2, Calgary, Gaudreau 16 (Stewart, Glencross), 10:16. 3, Calgary, Monahan 31 (Hamilton, Gaudreau), 15:24. 4, Arizona, Domi 16, 17:12.

**The Period—**5, Arizona, Eklund 12 (Perlini, Domi), 16:19. 6, Arizona, Eklund 12 (Perlini, Domi), 18:30. 7, Arizona, Domi 17 (Stepan, Dvorak), 19:39.

**Shots on Goal:** Calgary 16-16-12-4-4. Arizona 16-16-16-4-4.

**Power-play opportunities—**Calgary 0 of 3; Arizona 0 of 1.  
**Goalies:** Calgary 16-16-12-4-4 (44-42). Arizona 16-16-16-4-4 (A—13,288 (17,125). T—2:30.

## Calendrier

April 7—Last day regular season.

April 11—Playoffs begin.



JEFFREY T. BARNES/AP

**Nashville Predators goalie Pekka Rinne makes a save during the third period of Monday's game against the Sabres in Buffalo, N.Y. Rinne stopped 35 shots for his eighth shutout of the season.**

## Roundup

# Predators win for 14th time in last 15 games

Associated Press

**BUFFALO, N.Y. —**Predators stalwart Pekka Rinne briefly stopped to marvel when informed of the elite NHL goaltending company he joined in becoming a three-time 40-game winner — and after a shutout, no less.

Only six players — Martin Brodeur and Terry Sawchuk, among them — had previously done that.

"When you say that, it sounds pretty cool," Rinne said, after stopping 35 shots in a 4-0 win over the Buffalo Sabres on Monday night. "Those guys are legends of this game. They've done so much not only for the game of hockey but for the position of being a goalie. That's great. That's a credit to my teammates, big time, and also my coaching staff."

Rinne has been nearly unbeatable in winning his 11th straight game and improving to 40-9-4. And the 12-year veteran is carrying the NHL-leading Predators along with him in approaching numerous franchise milestones.

Nashville set a team record by extending its point streak to 15 games (14-0). And the Predators won their ninth consecutive road game as part of a run in which they're 12-0-3 in their past 15 to break yet another team record.

"He's unbelievable," teammate Ryan Johansen said of Rinne. "In our opinion, he's been the most valuable player for us."

The rest of the Predators have been no slouches during a stretch in which they haven't lost in regu-

lation since a 3-1 setback against Detroit on Feb. 17.

Johansen and Mike Fisher scored goals 4:34 apart in the second period. Filppu Forsberg and Ryan Hartman then sealed it by scoring in the final four minutes.

**Blue Jackets 5, Bruins 4 (OT):** Cam Atkinson scored 2:55 into overtime to lift visiting Columbus to its eighth straight win, spoiling a splendid NHL debut for Boston forward Ryan Donato.

Sonny Milano, Boone Jenner, Thomas Vanek and Artemi Panarin also scored for the Blue Jackets. Nick Foligno had two assists, and Vanek and Jenner each added one. Joonas Korpisalo stopped 34 shots.

Donato had a goal and two assists for Boston, which moved a point behind idle Tampa Bay for first in the Atlantic. Riley Nash, Brad Marchand and David Krejci also scored for the Bruins, and Tuukka Rask finished with 20 saves.

**Kings 4, Wild 3 (OT):** Jeff Carter scored his second goal of the game with 33.8 seconds left in overtime and visiting Los Angeles recovered after giving up a two-goal lead.

Tanner Pearson and Dustin Brown also scored for Los Angeles, which has alternated wins and losses over its past nine games. The Kings pulled into a tie with Anaheim for third place in the Pacific Division with 86 points, and hold the tiebreaker over the Ducks.

Jonathan Quick made 24 saves for the Kings, who appeared

headed to a second straight loss until Brown tipped home a point shot from Drew Doughty with 46.5 seconds left in regulation. Doughty finished with three assists.

**Panthers 2, Canadiens 0:** Roberto Luongo stopped 28 shots for his third shutout of the season and 76th of his career to lead visiting Florida.

Aaron Ekblad and Aleksander Barkov scored to help the Panthers clinch closer to a playoff position, pulling three points behind idle new Jersey for the second wild card in the Eastern Conference. Florida has two games in hand on the Devils.

Antti Niemi finished with 38 saves for Montreal, which was shut out for the second straight game and 12th time this season — including three against the Panthers. The Canadiens were coming off a 4-0 loss at Toronto on Saturday.

**Coyotes 5, Flames 2:** Oliver Ekman-Larsson scored twice late in the third period to lead host Arizona.

Max Domi also had two goals for Arizona, including an empty-netter with 21 seconds left, and had an assist on Ekman-Larsson's tie-breaking goal. Richard Panik scored early in the second period for the Coyotes, and Antti Raanta stopped 42 shots.

Dougie Hamilton had a goal and an assist, and Sean Monahan also scored as Calgary lost for the fourth time in five games. Mike Smith finished with 25 saves.



## MLB

## London may host 2 games

By RONALD BLUM  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Major League Baseball is working to finalize a two-game series between the New York Yankees and Boston Red Sox at London's Olympic Stadium on June 29-30 in 2019, the sport's first regular-season games in Europe.

The Red Sox have the option of having both games be Boston home games, a person familiar with the planning told The Associated Press. The person spoke on condition of anonymity Monday because no announcement had been made.

"I've never been to London," Yankees manager Aaron Boone said. "So, if that's true, maybe I'm going to London. Anytime you can grow our game, I think that's a pretty cool thing."

Baseball officials have long hoped for games in London and settled last year on Olympic Stadium, which is in its second season as home of West Ham of the Premier League.

Because it originally was built for a 400-meter track, it is wider than other large stadiums in the London area and can best accommodate the dimensions of a baseball field.

"This is something the two clubs have discussed for years with MLB and hopefully it will become a reality," Red Sox owner John Henry said in an email to The Associated Press.

MLB chose the June window because it is after the Premier League season and before the stadium must be made available for summer and fall events.

Each player would get \$60,000 for participating in the games, according to the collective bargaining agreement.

"I think it would be a lot of fun, to be honest," Yankees first base man Greg Bird said. "I think the travel would be interesting, how they set that up."

MLB is playing regular-season games in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and Monterrey, Mexico, this year.

Baseball opened its season at Monterrey in 1999 (Colorado vs. San Diego); the Tokyo Dome in 2000 (Chicago Cubs-New York Mets), 2004 (Tampa Bay-Yankees), 2008 (Boston-Oakland) and 2012 (Seattle-Oakland); and at Sydney, Australia in 2014 (Los Angeles-Dodgers-Arizona). The collective bargaining agreement had a provision for a 2019 opener in Tokyo.



JOHN MINCHILLO/AP

Baltimore Orioles manager Buck Showalter, second from right, stands on the mound after relieving starting pitcher Dylan Bundy during the third inning of a spring training game against the Pittsburgh Pirates on March 2 in Sarasota, Fla.

## Meaningless matchups?

Don't tell that to managers, who see value in spring games

By JAKE SEINER  
Associated Press

**SARASOTA, Fla.** — Buck Showalter heard that Lance Lynn was pitching against the Orioles and knew he'd be changing his lineup.

The Baltimore manager wasn't concerned about the result of last week's Grapefruit League game against Minnesota, played hours after Lynn officially joined the team. But Showalter figured the right-hander might start when the Twins travel to Camden Yards for a three-game season-opening series later this month.

With that in mind, Showalter saw an opportunity.

Even in spring training, when wins and losses are meaningless, managers are always hunting for significant matchups. That's especially true along the Florida Gulf Coast, where all five AL East rivals train within about three miles of each other.

Picking and choosing spots for players has been key for Baltimore this spring because the Orioles play 14 of their first 17 regular-season games against either division foes or the Twins, another regular spring opponent. When Minnesota signed Lynn to a free-agent deal a week ago Monday and announced him as

### Dodgers' Turner breaks left wrist

**GLendale, Ariz.** — The reigning National League champion Dodgers are going to be without their red-headed slugger on opening day, and possibly for a while after.

Justin Turner has a broken left wrist after being hit by a pitch during Los Angeles' 3-1 victory over the Oakland Athletics on Monday night.

Turner was struck by a pitch from right-hander Kendall Graveman in the first inning. Last year's NLCS MVP grunted and winced as he jogged away from the plate toward the dugout, his hand hanging limp at his side. He was quickly visited by a trainer and replaced by Donovan Solano.



Turner

the next day's starting pitcher against the Orioles, Showalter stacked his lineup with regulars like Manny Machado, Trey Man-

see Lynn that first weekend of the season, and Baltimore's players are largely unfamiliar with him because he's been in the National League his whole career with St. Louis. The spring game was a valuable sneak peak at his stuff and delivery.

"That's why we got some of our guys over there," Showalter said.

He can only hope his Birds do better the next time they see Lynn. He struck out five in three hitless innings.

Showalter is also trying to shield his established starters from AL East rivals, keeping Dylan Bundy, Andrew Cashner, Kevin Gausman and Chris Tillman away from the Yankees, Red Sox, Rays, Twins and Blue Jays. It's no accident that Miguel Castro and Mike Wright Jr. have combined for four starts against those teams — they're in contention for the No. 5 starter spot, and Showalter wants to see how they fare against division opponents.

"We want to see them in that environment to evaluate them better," Showalter said.

This isn't groundbreaking territory for Showalter, of course. The AL East clubs along the Gulf Coast often manipulate their rosters to either align or avoid matchups. Former Yankees manager Joe Girardi was especially aggressive about that.

— Associated Press

cini and Pedro Alvarez — a some-what unusual move for a road spring training game.

Thing is, the O's are likely to

NFL

# Group helps vets become officials

Former NFL ref Pereira's Battlefields to Ballfields trains ex-military to call games

By BARRY WILNER  
Associated Press

Hector Tarango was lost, finding little purpose in life.

After a medical discharge from the Army following a series of ailments, including a ruptured Achilles tendon, he had developed post-traumatic stress disorder. His personal life was a mess.

"My deployment money was gone, my son was gone and my wife remarried. It was ugly after my three deployments," he says. "I gave up."

Then three people and one vocation turned around Tarango's existence.

His son, Joseph, re-entered his life. His friend Henry Rodriguez, whom Tarango calls "my brother," alerted him to Battlefields to Ballfields, an organization that gets veterans involved in officiating.

And Mike Pereira, the former NFL head of officiating and current Fox football analyst who founded Battlefields to Ballfields a year ago, took Tarango under his wing.

Now, the 37-year-old Tarango not only is a football official, he's branched out into basketball.

"I played sports and football, but I didn't know the rules," Tarango says. "A lot of people watch football and think they know the rules, but they don't."

"Henry told me Mike Pereira ran it and I had no idea who Mike was. I wasn't interested in it (originally), but I did some research and said, 'Yeah, I'll do it.' I had never blown a whistle before."

Like more than 100 other former military members, Tarango regularly blows whistles now, working youth and high school games in California. Pereira launched his organization last year hoping to reach the century mark at some point in its buildup. He's gone well past that number, and many of the vets have stories similar to Tarango's.

Battlefields to Ballfields funds the veterans through scholarships as they get involved in officiating. Pereira works with officiating groups across the country to get the veterans onto the fields and courts once they have learned their craft.

"One of the hurdles when you start to officiate is the cost of starting: dues and registration fees and uniforms," he says. "It's expensive, especially based on what you make per game."

It's also rewarding, not only for the former military members but for the officiating realm.

"They've got the characteristics you need to officiate," Pereira says. "The courage is a huge part, but not being intimidated by any play-

**'I get to put a uniform on and I like wearing a uniform. It gets me out of the house. It is fulfilling.'**

Hector Tarango

Vet in Battlefields to Ballfields program

ers, coaches or spectators. The whole notion of teamwork, they had to be part of a team before, and as officials you are part of a team as well.

"The confidence, of course, to be able to do a job and do it well. And the stick-to-itiveness.

"It's amazing to watch them learn, they learn so quickly because they have had to follow orders. It's hard — we all know officiating is hard — and it will take them a while. But they have all it takes to be successful and now all they need is repetitions.

"My goal is to get them to stay with it."

That goal apparently has been reached with Tarango. He did Pop Warner football games on weekends and junior varsity contests on Thursdays, averaging perhaps four games a week. He's doing the same with basketball, and doesn't sound averse to trying other sports.

"I get to put a uniform on and I like wearing a uniform," he says with a chuckle. "It gets me out of the house. It is fulfilling."

"At first it was real hard. There's that brotherhood, though. I'm not saying it works for everybody, but it works for me. Reffing makes me part of the game and a part of something."

That's the idea. Pereira's group has officials working a variety of sports, including wrestling, track and field, lacrosse, soccer, even one ice hockey official. Of the first 100 recruits to B2B, eight already were doing a second sport within a year.

Battlefields to Ballfields is looking for mentors among veterans who already have experience in officiating, and Pereira believes many of his recent signees have the ability to teach.

"These guys and women make a good little extra income and they're getting out and working with kids," Pereira says. "We all talk about how we want to serve again in some way, and they feel like a part of the community."

"It's the most fulfilling thing I have ever done."



MICHAEL CONROY/AP

Quarterback AJ McCarron spent the past four seasons backing up Andy Dalton in Cincinnati after being selected by the Bengals in the fifth round of the 2014 draft. He will now get a chance to lead a team after agreeing to a two-year contract with the Buffalo Bills, who traded QB Tyrod Taylor to the Browns.

## Shuffle: Backup QBs also in high demand

FROM BACK PAGE

sending Alex Smith to the Washington Redskins, freeing Kirk Cousins to become a free agent in his prime, one who rewrote the conventional contract.

Cousins made the media rounds at the Super Bowl, where he secretly scouted out the city he would soon call his own.

Minnesota surged past Denver, Phoenix and New York as Cousins' desired destination after the Vikings decided to let all three of their veteran quarterbacks hit the open market.

While Cousins was working out a three-year, ground-breaking (fully guaranteed) and record-setting (\$28 million average) deal in Minnesota, the Broncos, Cardinals and Jets were picking through the Vikings' quarterback bin.

■ Coming off a \$2 million deal in Minnesota, Keenum commanded a two-year, \$36 million deal in Denver after leading the Vikings to an 11-3 mark and the NFC championship game.

■ Sam Bradford, whose injury opened the way for Keenum's breakout season, signed a one-year, \$20 million deal with the Cardinals, who lost Carson Palmer to retirement.

■ Teddy Bridgewater, once the Vikings' established starter before a devastating knee injury two years ago, signed a one-year, \$5 million contract with the Jets, who also re-signed Josh McCown for one year at \$10 million.

Trevor Siemian, who blew up the Broncos' quarterback plans two straight summers by beating out 2016 first-round flop Paxton Lynch, heads to the Vikings as Cousins' backup after going 13-11 in Denver.

Leading the Bills to their first playoff appearance in 18 years wasn't enough for Tyrod Taylor to secure his long-term future in Buffalo. The Bills traded Taylor to Cleveland, which traded DeShone Kizer to the Green Bay Packers, where he'll back up Aaron Rodgers.

AJ McCarron finally gets his chance to prove himself after spending four seasons in Andy Dalton's shadow. He signed a two-year deal with the Bills and said it makes no difference if his new team adds more competition



RYAN KANG/AP

Wyoming's Josh Allen is one of the top quarterback available in next month's NFL Draft.

by selecting one of the highly regarded quarterback prospects in the draft next month.

"I try not to ever waste any mental thought on it because it's something I can't control," McCarron said. "... You can either let it affect you in how you go about your work and let that define you. Or you can change everybody's thought process. My mindset is to change anybody that's had any doubt."

Keenum said his mindset won't change: He'll always draft a quarterback such as Oklahoma's Baker Mayfield, Wyoming's Josh Allen, USC's Sam Darnold, UCLA's Josh Rosen, Louisville's Lamar Jackson or Oklahoma State's Mason Rudolph.

"I've been around long enough to know that anything is a possibility in this league. I was a starting quarterback when a team drafted somebody No. 1 overall and traded a bunch of draft picks. I know how that goes," Keenum said, recalling when the Rams selected Jared Goff in 2016.

Teams are also doing out big bucks for backups after watching Nick Foles' MVP performance in leading the Eagles past Tom Brady's Patriots in the Super Bowl while starter Carson Wentz watched from the sideline.

Mike Glennon went from being the Bears' backup to Arizona, Chase Daniel went from the Saints to Chicago and Tom Savage moved from the Texans to New Orleans.

None of them got the kind of

money Jimmy Garoppolo did after serving as Brady's backup for several seasons and then getting traded to San Francisco. After sparking the downtrodden 49ers, Garoppolo was rewarded with a record-breaking deal that averaged a whopping \$27.5 million a season.

That mark stood until Cousins' deal came in at an average of \$28 million, which is sure to fall when the Packers and Rodgers work out a new contract.

In several weeks, the NFL will be flush with a new crop of quarterbacks, some of whom may one day make today's jaw-dropping contracts look a little less eye-popping.

They may have to start out as a backup such as Patrick Mahomes II last year in Kansas City or Rodgers did in Green Bay when Brett Favre was still going strong.

Rodgers said that although there's an ever-widening schism between college offenses and the ones the pros run, today's QB prospects are in many ways more prepared for the NFL because the coaching is better at all levels.

"I think you're seeing more spread offenses in college, which give you the run-pass option a lot of times. You're seeing the NFL incorporate some of that. But in general, I think there's just so much more education about quarterbacks that allows these guys to be more ready to play than, say, myself or Alex Smith or Jason Campbell were in 2005 when we got picked in the first round," Rodgers said. "So, it's a testament to those coaches but also those players for getting them ready to play earlier."

"But for any young quarterback, it's about opportunity and fit, situation. So, you've seen guys like Big Ben (Roethlisberger) go into a good situation and play great his rookie year, DeShaun Watson this year with a good team around him, Carson in his second year. Those guys spoilt us with their ability to make plays and to be great. Not every situation is like that. And I hope for those guys they get the right opportunity, and for some of them it's sit and learn. That's what I did and it worked out well for me."

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL

## OU's Young going to NBA

NORMAN, Okla. — Oklahoma star Trae Young is leaving for the NBA after a standout freshman season that ended with him leading the nation in scoring and assists.

The 6-foot-2 guard averaged 27.4 points and 8.7 assists this season, and many projections have him going early in the first round. He announced the move on Twitter and posted the reasons for his decision on ESPN early Tuesday, saying he was ready to put in the work needed to play in the NBA.

"I know there will be doubts again as I prepare for the draft. I don't pretend to be ready to play in the NBA today, but I am determined to do what I've always done: invest in the work to prepare for the league and the incredible challenges it presents," he wrote.

## Memphis hiring Hardaway

Former Memphis All-American Penny Hardaway is heading back to his alma mater — as its men's basketball coach.

Memphis was expected to announce Hardaway as its next coach on Tuesday, said a person familiar with the situation. The person spoke to The Associated Press Monday on condition of anonymity because Memphis hasn't publicly announced the hire. Memphis has scheduled a news conference for Tuesday.

The 46-year-old Hardaway replaces Tubby Smith, who was fired after going 40-26 in two seasons with Memphis.

Hardaway starred for Memphis teams that posted a combined 43-23 record and made consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances in 1992 and 1993. The Tigers reached a regional final in 1992.

## Sanchez goes to Charlotte

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — The Charlotte 49ers have hired Virginia associate head coach Ron Sanchez as their new coach, following a 13-17 season.

Sanchez will be introduced at a news conference next week.

Sanchez has been an integral part of two-time national coach of the year Tony Bennett's staff for the last 12 years, helping build Washington State and Virginia into national powers.

Virginia finished the regular season as the nation's top-ranked team, but became the first No. 1 seed to get upset by a No. 16 seed in the NCAA Tournament when the Cavaliers fell to UMBC.

## Ole Miss introduces Davis

OXFORD, Miss. — Kermit Davis was comfortable at Middle Tennessee, but after 16 seasons he was ready for the challenge of leading a program in the Southeastern Conference.

The 58-year-old has been given that opportunity at Mississippi, where he was introduced as coach on Monday. The introduction came less than 24 hours after Middle Tennessee fell to Louisville in the second round of the NIT.

Davis — a Leakesville, Miss., native — is taking over a program at Ole Miss that last made the tournament in 2015.

— Associated Press

## Haas doubtful for Boilermakers

BY MICHAEL MAROT  
Associated Press

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Purdue center Isaac Haas appears to be done for the season even if Purdue's medical team or its crack engineering department can create an elbow brace that allows him to play in the NCAA Tournament.

Even if the NCAA approves a protective device for Haas' fractured right elbow, coach Matt Painter said, there are still limitations and it wouldn't be beneficial for Haas' health.

"He had the best brace you can have and he couldn't shoot right-handed free throws with it," Painter said Monday. "He wants to play. But at the end of the day, you have to put people out there who can help you."

The 7-foot-2, 290-pound Haas was injured during the second half of last Friday's win over Cal State Fullerton when he crashed hard to the floor while fighting for a rebound. The next day, the Boilermakers' trainers and doctors explored options to give the Alabama native a chance to come back. They fitted him with a bulky brace, which allowed Haas to run with his teammates at practice.

But the NCAA disallowed the contraption out of safety concerns for other players.

Even if officials had allowed Haas to play



PAUL SANCYA/AP

Purdue center Isaac Haas shoots with his right elbow wrapped during warmups before Sunday's second-round game against Butler. Haas didn't play and is doubtful for Purdue's game on Friday.

with the device, Painter was concerned about his limitations — the inability to

make free throws and grab rebounds with both hands — making him an even bigger target for opponents to challenge and foul.

"He's going to need surgery and they're going to have to put a couple of pins in there," Painter said. "They say it can't get worse unless he falls, but people who cover us know he falls all the time."

Haas did not speak with reporters Monday, and his absence in Sunday's second-round game didn't hurt Purdue (30-6), which beat Butler 76-73 to reach its second straight Sweet 16. Purdue faces Texas Tech (29-6) in Boston on Friday.

Back on campus, word trickled down to Painter that some in the school's well-regarded engineering department were seeking a solution that would allow Haas to use both hands effectively.

"I think they're working on something, a class project or something," Painter said. "But I really don't know."

Painter commended Haas for staying engaged and providing leadership since suffering the injury. The big senior was Purdue's second-leading scorer at 14.7 points and No. 2 rebounder at 5.7. He also blocked 46 shots.

Matt Haarms, a 7-3 redshirt freshman, replaced Haas in the starting lineup while 6-10 Jacquil Taylor, who had been used sparingly this season, joined the rotation.

## NIT roundup

## Saint Mary's holds off Washington

Associated Press

MORAGA, Calif. — Jordan Ford made a wide open three-pointer with 45.3 seconds to go and Saint Mary's won its program-record 30th game of the season with an 85-81 victory over Washington on Monday night to reach the NIT quarterfinals.

Washington freshman Jaylen Nowell answered with a deep three to pull to 82-79 at 33.5 but Saint Mary's worked the clock down to 12.8 before Ford sealed it with two free throws.

Ford scored 22 of his 26 points in the second half. Evan Fitzner added a season-high 20 points off the bench for Saint Mary's (30-5) and Emmett Naar had 12 assists.

Noah Dickerson had 22 points and nine rebounds for Washington (21-13), which lost to Saint Mary's for the first time. Matissse Thybulle moved into second in Pac-12 history for single-season steals, tying Gary Payton with 101.

Thybulle's steal and fast-break dunk got Washington within 75-72 and after Saint Mary's two free throws, Dickerson spun his defender on the baseline with a two-handed dunk.

**Western Kentucky 79, USC 75:** Justin Johnson scored 23 points and the visiting Hilltoppers won consecutive NIT games for the first time since 1948 with a victory over the Trojans.

Johnson spun in the paint and hit his patented hook shot with 1:03 remaining to give Western Kentucky a 76-73 lead and after Nick Rakocevic answered with a layup, Johnson went 1-for-2 at the free-throw line with 33.1 seconds left.

USC freshman Jordan Usher air-balled a three-pointer with 24.2 left and the Trojans didn't foul, allowing Dwight Coleby to seal it with a dunk at 11.3.

Coleby finished with 13 points, Lamonte Bearden had 11 and Josh Anderson 10 for WKU (26-10), which plays Oklahoma State in the quarterfinals on Wednesday night.

Elijah Stewart led USC (24-12) with four three-pointers and 20 points.



RICK EGAN, THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE/AP

Utah guard Justin Bibbins, left, tries to take a shot as LSU guard Daryl Edwards defends during Monday's second-round NIT game in Salt Lake City, Utah.

**Utah 95, LSU 71:** Sedrick Barefield led five starters in double figures with 17 points and the host Utah hit 14 three-pointers en route to a rout of the Tigers.

Utah scored the first four points of the game and built a 21-point first-quarter lead after a 19-2 run — with eight points from Barefield. The Tigers' lead reached 27 points in the second quarter before LSU closed the half on an 8-0 run to pull to 47-30. Utah shot 63 percent from the field in the half, including 7-for-14 from three-point range.

Justin Bibbins added 16 points, hitting four three-pointers, for Utah (21-11). Gabe Bealer added three threes and 13 points.

Freshman Tremont Waters had 19 points, eight assists and four steals for LSU (18-15). Skylar Mays added 16 points and senior Aaron Epps scored 12.

**Oklahoma State 71, Stanford 65:** Jeffrey Carroll scored 26 points, tying a career-high with five three-pointers, and Kendall Smith added 19 points to help the host Cowboys beat the Cardinal.

Oklahoma State (21-14) outscored Stanford 29-18 in the fourth quarter to secure a school-record-tying 15th home victory this season. The Cowboys trailed 54-53 before Carroll scored five points during a 12-1 run for the only double-digit lead of the second half.

Mitchell Solomon chipped in with 10 points for the Cowboys, who won a second straight NIT game for the first time in school history in front of a crowd of 9,635. Carroll scored 11 points in the first half as Oklahoma State led 30-29 after assisting on eight of its 12 baskets.

## NCAA TOURNAMENT



MARK HUMPHREY/AP

Florida State's PJ Savoy celebrates after the ninth-seeded Seminoles knocked off West Regional No. 1 seed Xavier on Sunday. Florida State will play Gonzaga on Friday.



DENIS POROY/AP

Clemson's Elijah Thomas, front, and David Skara celebrate on Sunday. The Tigers are one of three ACC teams in the Midwest Regional semifinals, where they'll play Kansas.



South Regional  
Nevada (29-7) vs.  
Loyola of Chicago (30-5)  
AFN-Sports  
Midnight Thursday CET  
8 a.m. Friday JKT



West Regional  
Texas A&M (22-12)  
vs. Michigan (30-7)  
AFN-Sports  
12:15 a.m. Friday CET  
8:15 a.m. Friday JKT



South Regional  
Kansas State (24-11)  
vs. Kentucky (26-10)  
AFN-Sports  
2:30 a.m. Friday CET  
10:30 a.m. Friday JKT



West Regional  
Florida State (22-11)  
vs. Gonzaga (32-4)  
AFN-Sports  
2:45 a.m. Friday CET  
10:45 a.m. Friday JKT

# Madness prevailed, leaving many surprises in Sweet 16

By AARON BEARD  
Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — After little went according to plan in the opening weekend of the NCAA Tournament, the bracket has a wildly different look for the Sweet 16 than many expected.

Out: Two 1-seeds (Virginia and Xavier) and a pair of 2-seeds (North Carolina and Cincinnati).

In: Two No. 11 seeds (Syracuse and Loyola-Chicago).

There are only seven of the top 16 seeds still alive for the regional rounds.

The Cavaliers' historic loss to 16-seed UMBC took out the top overall seed and thrust Villanova into the role of favorite, while pre-season No. 1 Duke was dominant in its two tournament wins.

Despite all the bracket turmoil, the power conferences managed to get 12 teams into the Sweet 16, with four coming from both the Atlantic Coast Conference and the Big 12.

Here's a look at the updated Final Four paths for the top remaining seeds:

**East:** This is the region that came closest to following the script.

Four of the top five seeds survived: No. 1 Villanova, No. 2 Purdue, No. 3 Texas Tech and No. 5 West Virginia. And the Wildcats (32-4) will have the shortest travel (about 315 miles) by heading to Boston as they pursue a second national title in three seasons.

"My good vibes are coming from how this team's playing, how unselfishly they play," Villanova coach Jay Wright said after Saturday's win against Alabama.

"Honestly, we don't care where we play. Boston is a great town, old Big East town like Pittsburgh. We stir up old Big East feelings. We like that."

Villanova meets the Mountaineers (26-10) in one semifinal Friday, while the Boilermakers (30-6) face the Red Raiders (26-9) in the other.

One storyline to watch: the status of 7-foot-2 Purdue center Isaac Haas, who broke his elbow in the first-round win against Cal State Fullerton. Haas warmed up before Sunday's win against Butler but an official said shortly before tipoff that the big man's brace hadn't been approved for competition.

**Midwest:** Consider this an ACC Invitational. Three of the four teams in Omaha, Neb., are from the ACC: No. 2 Duke, No. 5 Clemson and No. 11 Syracuse. They'll join top-seeded Kansas, with regional semifinals set for Friday.

The Jayhawks (29-7) are trying to return to the Final Four for the first time since 2012 after two straight regional-final losses. They'll face the Tigers (25-9), who are in their first NCAA Tournament since 2011 and their first Sweet 16 since 1997.

The Blue Devils (28-7) meet the Orange (23-13), who took out third-seed Michigan State on Sunday. They met in February, with the Blue Devils holding the Orange to 32 percent shooting in a 60-44 win.

The rematch will mark the second NCAA Tournament matchup between Hall of Famers Mike Krzyzewski and Jim Boeheim, with Coach K's Blue Devils winning one in the Sweet 16 in 1998.

**West:** Things were set to go from form, only to see top-seeded Xavier and No. 2 North Carolina lose on Sunday. Now Big Ten champion Michigan headlines the quartet in Los Angeles.

The third-seed Wolverines (30-7) will meet seventh-seed Texas A&M (22-12) after the Aggies blew out the Tar Heels in

their home state.

Fourth-seed Gonzaga (32-4) will face ninth-seeded Florida State (22-11).

"I think what you see happening in college basketball, it's almost like a revolution," FSU coach Leonard Hamilton said. "And what happens is you start categorizing people by the reputation that their players are getting into college."

"But in reality, kids are playing basketball all over the country and teams are getting better."

**South:** This is where there was the most March Madness.

None of the top-four seeds advanced, the first time in tournament history that has happened in a region. So the games in Atlanta will now be headlined by 5-seed Kentucky (26-10).

The Wildcats followed their run to the SEC Tournament title by surviving an upset bid from Davidson, then beating Buffalo — which had upset fourth-seeded Arizona. They'll face ninth-seeded Kansas State (24-11), which ended UMBC's historic weekend in Charlotte.

The other game on Thursday features No. 7-seed Nevada (29-7), which tied the tournament's second-biggest comeback by rallying from 22 down to beat No. 2 seed Cincinnati. The Wolf Pack faces No. 11 seed Loyola-Chicago (30-5), which advanced on a pair of final-second shots.

"We told the guys before, look at today alone: Michigan State, North Carolina, basically at home losing today," Kansas State coach Bruce Weber said. "It's what makes March Madness special and it kills the coaches because it's so hard and you think you have a great team. Matchups are important. Making the plays, having the right mojo at the right time."



Midwest Regional  
Kansas (29-7)  
vs. Clemson (25-9)  
AFN-Sports  
Midnight Friday CET  
8 a.m. Saturday JKT



East Regional  
Villanova (32-4) vs.  
West Virginia (26-10)  
AFN-Sports  
12:15 a.m. Saturday CET  
8:15 a.m. Saturday JKT



Midwest Regional  
Duke (28-7) vs.  
Syracuse (23-13)  
AFN-Sports  
2:30 a.m. Saturday CET  
10:30 a.m. Saturday JKT



East Regional  
Purdue (30-6)  
vs. Texas Tech (26-9)  
AFN-Sports  
2:45 a.m. Saturday CET  
10:45 a.m. Saturday JKT

## WOMEN'S NCAA TOURNAMENT

## Scoreboard

## Albany Regional

## First Round

## Friday, March 16

## At Columbia, S.C.

Virginia 68, California 62

South Carolina 65, UConn 52

Saturday, March 17

## At Storrs, Conn.

Quinnipiac 86, Miami 72

At Athens, Ga.

Georgia 68, Mercer 63

At Tallahassee, Fla.

Florida State 80, Georgia 49

Buffalo 102, South Florida 79

## Second Round

Saturday, March 19

## At Storrs, Conn.

Quinnipiac 46

South Carolina 65, Virginia 56

UConn 71, Quinnipiac 46

Duke 66, Georgia 50

At Tallahassee, Fla.

Buffalo 80, Florida 65

## Regional Semifinals

Saturday, March 24

At Albany, N.Y.

South Carolina (25-6) vs. Buffalo (29-5)

UConn (34-0) vs. Duke (24-8)

## Spokane Regional

## First Round

Friday, March 16

At Notre Dame, Ind.

Notre Dame 81, Cal 74, Northridge 81

Villanova 81, South Dakota State 74, OT

At College Station, Texas

DePaul 76, Texas A&amp;M 69

Texas A&amp;M 69, Drake 76

At Eugene, Ore.

Minnesota 80, Oregon 77

Oregon 88, Seattle 45

Saturday, March 17

At Columbus, Ohio

Central Michigan 78, LSU 69

Ohio State 87, George Washington 45

Sunday, March 18

At Notre Dame, Ind.

Notre Dame 74, Cal 72

At College Station, Texas

Texas A&amp;M 70, DePaul 70

At Eugene, Ore.

Oregon 101, Minnesota 77

Saturday, March 19

At Columbus, Ohio

Central Michigan 95, Ohio State 78

## Regional Semifinals

Sunday, March 24

At Spokane, Wash.

Notre Dame (31-3) vs. Texas A&amp;M (26-9)

Oregon (32-4) vs. Central Michigan (30-4)

## Kansas City Regional

## First Round

Friday, March 16

At Lexington, Ky.

Maryland 77, Princeton 57

NC State 62, Elon 34

Saturday, March 17

At Starkville, Miss.

Oklahoma State 84, Syracuse 57

Mississippi State 75, Florida 50

At Los Angeles

UCLA 71, American 60

Creighton 70, Stanford 65

At Austin, Texas

Arizona State 73, Nebraska 62

Texas 83, Miami 70

## Second Round

Sunday, March 18

At Lexington, Ky.

Monday, March 19

At Oklahoma City

Mississippi State 71, Oklahoma State 56

At Los Angeles

UCLA 86, Creighton 64

At Austin, Texas

Texas 85, NC State 65

## Regional Semifinals

Friday, March 23

At Stanford, Calif.

Florida Gulf Coast 80, Missouri 70

Stanford 82, NC State 74

Second Round

Sunday, March 25

At Lexington, Ky.

Louisville 90, Marquette 72

At Knoxville, Tenn.

Oregon State 82, Texas 59

At Waco, Texas

Baylor 80, Michigan 68

Saturday, March 24

At Stanford, Calif.

Stanford 90, Florida Gulf Coast 70

## Regional Semifinals

Friday, March 23

At Lexington, Ky.

Oregon State 82, Florida (34-1)

Louisville (34-2) vs. Stanford (24-10)

## Lexington Regional

## First Round

Friday, March 16

At Lexington, Ky.

Louisville 74, Boise State 42

Marquette 84, Dayton 62

At Kentucky, Tenn.

Oregon State 82, Western Kentucky 58

Tennessee 100, Liberty 69

At Lexington, Ky.

## Second Round

Sunday, March 18

At Lexington, Ky.

Louisville 90, Marquette 72

At Knoxville, Tenn.

Oregon State 82, Texas 59

At Waco, Texas

Baylor 80, Michigan 68

Saturday, March 17

At Stanford, Calif.

Stanford 90, Florida Gulf Coast 70

## Regional Semifinals

Friday, March 23

At Lexington, Ky.

Oregon State 82, Florida (34-1)

Louisville (34-2) vs. Stanford (24-10)

## MAC teams crash Sweet 16 party

No. 11 seeds Buffalo, Central Michigan advance with all four No. 1s

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Buffalo and Central Michigan are crashing the women's Sweet 16.

The two 11 seeds from the Mid-American Conference pulled off stunning road upsets of Florida State and Ohio State on Monday night to advance to the regional semifinals for the first time in school history.

It's the first time a school from the MAC has advanced this far since Bowling Green reached the regional semifinals in 2007.

Buffalo coach Felisha Legette-Jack said she spoke on the phone with Central Michigan coach Sue Guevara after their game was over. Buffalo was the first team from the conference to earn an at-large berth in 22 years.

"Our goal was to let people know that the MAC was alive and well," Legette-Jack said.

They sure are.

"We are excited to see success come from two teams in the MAC because it's always been a one-bid league," the Bulls' Stephanie Reid said. "For as long as I have been here, for I know as long as Coach (Legette-Jack) has been here, for a long time, it's been a one-bid league. They finally opened up to us and accepted us into the tournament at-large and now we are showing why."

Both Buffalo and Central Michigan won by double digits.

"This team will not fold," Guevara said. "This team is very tough, this team is very focused. We know what we had to do and we went out and did it."

While making the Sweet 16 is new for both those schools, UConn is headed to its 25th consecutive regional semifinal. All four No. 1 seeds advanced to the Sweet 16 for the ninth consecutive season.

Huskies coach Geno Auriemma wasn't surprised to see a few newcomers in the regional semifinals.

"If you look around the country, mid-major programs are better than people think and they're one of the best," he said. "Women's basketball mid-majors don't get any respect. On the men's side they do, but not on the women's side. So for this year to have what's happening with the mid-majors (winning), I think that's the best thing that's ever happened."

## Albany Regional

No. 1 UConn 71, No. 9 Quinnipiac 46: Nephessa Collier scored 23 points and host UConn beat in-state neighbor Quinnipiac to advance to a 25th straight Sweet 16.

Aurora Stevens added 14 points and Kia Nurse chipped in with 13 for the Huskies (34-0), who fought their way to a much slower-paced game than their 140-52 first-round rout of Saint Francis (Pa.).

But Connecticut was not threatened in this one either. They opened with a 9-2 run and never trailed.

Jen Gay had 12 points to lead the ninth-seeded Bobcats (28-6), who saw their school-record 23-game winning streak snapped.

No. 5 Duke 66, No. 4 Georgia 40: Leondra Doolin scored 16 points and Duke's defense was dominant, holding host Georgia to two second-quarter points.

Lexie Brown and Erin Mathias each had 14 points for Duke (24-8), which will play UConn in the Albany Regional on Saturday.

Georgia (26-7) made only one of 19 shots in the second period. The Lady Bulldogs set season lows for fewest points in a period and game and lowest field-goal percentage (24.0) in a game.

No. 11 Buffalo 86, No. 3 Florida State 65: Cierra Dillard scored 22 points and Buffalo shocked host Florida State to advance to the Sweet 16 for the first time in school history.



PAUL VERNON/AP

Central Michigan players celebrate their second-round victory over Ohio State in the Women's NCAA Tournament in Columbus, Ohio, on Monday. The Chippewas won 95-78.

The Bulls, who were one of the last four to earn an at-large berth in the 64-team field, shot 47.4 percent from the field and went 24-for-26 from the foul line. They also held the Seminoles to 3-for-25 on three-pointers and 33.8 percent from the field.

Buffalo (29-5) won't have to go to the regional semifinal as it will face defending champion and second-seeded South Carolina on Saturday in Albany, N.Y.

It is the first time that in eight games that Florida State (26-7) has dropped an NCAA Tournament contest when it has been the host.

## Kansas City Regional

No. 1 Mississippi State 71, No. 9 Oklahoma State 56: Victoria Vivians scored 23 points, Teaira McCowan added 21 points and 18 rebounds and host Mississippi State earned a hard-fought win over Oklahoma State.

Top-seeded Mississippi State (34-1) also got 17 points from Morgan William, who hit several crucial baskets throughout the game. McCowan scored 17 of her 21 points in the second half and shot 8-for-12 from the free-throw line.

Oklahoma State (21-11) was hurt when starting guard Loryn Goodwin picked up her fourth foul with 4:39 remaining in the third quarter. She stayed in the game, but her defensive presence was limited and that was around the time that Mississippi State went on a 10-2 lead to open up a 51-43 advantage.

No. 2 Texas 85, No. 7 Arizona State 65: Lehanna Higgs scored 19 points and Brooke McCarty scored 15 as host Texas booked its fourth consecutive trip to the Sweet 16.

Higgs scored 15 in the first half, and McCarty took over in the third quarter with 10 points in a 14-2 run that put the Longhorns to a big lead and never let the Sun Devils recover. McCarty had a pair of three-pointers in the run and her nifty drives and assists made sure the No. 2-seed Longhorns (28-6) avoided the same kind of home court uts that upheld their several team titles earlier in the evening.

Kianna Ibis scored 27 to lead Arizona State (22-13).

No. 3 UCLA 86, No. 11 Creighton 64: Jordyn Canada scored 21 points and Brooke DeJani added 16 points to lead host UCLA.

UCLA (26-7) reaches the Sweet 16 for the third consecutive year and advances to the Kansas City Regional and will face Texas on Friday.

Canada, made six of seven shots and dished out eight assists to lead the Bruins. The set-

ior guard, the Pac 12 defensive Player of the Year and three-time All-Conference guard, has scored 20 or more points in six of her last eight games.

## Spokane Regional

No. 11 Central Michigan 95, No. 3 Ohio State 78: Presley Hudson scored 28 points and Central Michigan stunned host Ohio State to earn the school's first ever trip to the Sweet 16.

Cassie Breen threw the ball high in the air as the clock wound down and the joyous Central Michigan players jumped, screamed and hugged as they celebrated the biggest win in school history.

The Chippewas had won their first tournament game ever in Saturday's first-round upset of No. 6 Louisiana State. With the upset of Ohio State, they advance to face No. 2 Oregon in Spokane, Wash., on Saturday.

Central Michigan (30-4) out-rebounded and out-hustled Ohio State, played taut defense, hit a season-high 14 three-pointers and kept the Buckeyes at bay late in the game.

The Chippewas got plenty of help in the upset from the unusually error-prone Buckeyes, who got behind in the first half and then were run over by momentum and couldn't climb back in. Central Michigan led by as much as 23 points in the second half as Ohio State struggled to put together a run that would shift the tide.

## Lexington Regional

No. 4 Stanford 90, No. 12 Florida Gulf Coast 70: Alanna Smith scored 28 points with four three-pointers, Brittany McPhee added 17 points and nine rebounds and host Stanford is headed back to the Lexington Regional for a third straight March after beating scrappy Florida Gulf Coast.

Freshman Kiana Williams shined on the big stage for the second time in three days with 12 points and six assists for the Cardinal (24-10), on to the Sweet 16 for the 11th straight season.

Florida Gulf Coast (31-5) set the single-season three-point record with 431, breaking Sacramento State's mark of 424 from 2014-15, but didn't have the depth or talent to keep up against a taller Stanford team that made it hard for the Eagles to do their signature move: drive and dish.

## SPORTS



Sweet victory

No. 11 Buffalo stuns FSU  
Women's NCAA Tournament, Page 31

## Shuffling the QB deck

ILLUSTRATION BY  
NOGA AMI-RAV/Stars and StripesRemarkable run  
on passers likely  
to stretch to NFL DraftBy ARNIE STAPLETON  
Associated Press

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. — Already a dozen NFL teams have new quarterbacks, half of them starters. And next month's draft features a deep class of QB prospects, a half-dozen of which could hear their names called in the first round.

Why such a remarkable run on prime-time passers?

"They're hard to find," Denver Broncos general manager John Elway said after introducing Case Keenum as his fifth quarterback since Peyton Manning's retirement

just two years ago. "It's a tough spot to play. There are a lot of expectations. It's a hard position. There are a lot of pressures on it. You've got to play with consistency and there are a lot of people that rely on that position."

So, proven passers and projects alike see teams jockeying to throw multiple millions their way.

The harbinger of the "Great Quarterback Shuffle" of 2018 came during Super Bowl week when word got out that the Kansas City Chiefs were

SEE SHUFFLE ON PAGE 28

Ex-NFL official helping vets train  
to become referees » **Page 28**

Purdue center Haas unlikely to play after  
fracturing elbow » **NCAA Tournament, Page 29**

